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COUNTY BOROUGH OF BOOTLE



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year ended 31st December, 1954

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T. R. ROBERTON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH



COUNTY BOROUGH OF BOOTLE



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ROBT. JOHNSON & CO. LTD.  
SOUTHPORT.

1955

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## FOREWORD

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*The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors  
of the County Borough of Bootle.*

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report for the year 1954, being the eighty-second of the series, on the health of the people of the County Borough of Bootle.

From the vital statistics published in the Report, the following figures have been extracted.

The total number of deaths from all causes was 685 as compared with 602 for the previous year. This gives a general death rate of 8·91 per thousand as against 7·89 for 1953 and is the second lowest rate ever recorded. The total number of live births was 1,662, being 66 more than the previous year. This is a rate of 21·6 per thousand population as compared with 20·9 for the previous year. The rate for England and Wales is 15·2 per thousand. The number of deaths of infants under one year of age was 62 as compared with 46 for the previous year. The infant mortality rate was 37·3 as against 28·8 and this is also the second lowest rate reported in the Borough. Of the 62 deaths of infants, 33 occurred in the first week and a total of 40 in the first month of life as compared with 23 dying in the first week and 31 in the first month of life in 1953. Of the deaths occurring in the first month, 29 were due to prematurity and congenital malformation. Premature birth carries with it the risk of a high infant mortality and 8·26 per cent. of the total births were premature; the figures for the years 1952 and 1953 were 7·5 per cent. and 6·6 per cent. respectively. The Annual Report of the Minister of Health for the years 1952 and 1953 give the percentage of premature live births to the total live births as 6·2 and 6·6 respectively. The number of stillbirths reported for 1954 was 37 as against 44 for 1953.

Twenty deaths were ascribed to pulmonary tuberculosis, the same number as in the previous year. This is a death rate of 0·26 per thousand population. Twenty-one deaths were ascribed to tuberculosis (all forms) as against 22 for the previous year, a rate of 0·27 per thousand population as compared with 0·29 for the previous year.

The arrangements made for the immunisation of children against diphtheria were the same as in previous years, 1,229 children receiving a complete course of inoculation, while 595 previously inoculated children received a reinforcing injection. At present it is estimated that 47·6 per cent. of the children under 5 years and 79·2 per cent. of the children aged 5-15 years have been protected by inoculation. Three cases of diphtheria were notified during the year but in no case was the disease confirmed on investigation.

The facilities for the inoculation of young children against whooping cough which were outlined in last year's report were again available, a total of 444 children being inoculated against this disease.

During the year 807 children, of whom 704 were under 1 year, were vaccinated. This is 42·4 per cent. of the live births, which is slightly less than the previous year, namely 44·9 per cent.

There was a fall in the number of cases of infectious disease notified to the Health Department; 68 cases of scarlet fever were notified as compared with 105, 770 cases of measles as against 928, and 269 cases of whooping cough as against 425 for the previous year. Three cases of poliomyelitis were notified, in two of the cases there was a slight paralysis of the foot, while the third case, a woman aged 23 years, died of respiratory paralysis within a few hours of admission to hospital.

Satisfactory progress continues to be made with the clearance of sub-standard property. During the year Derby Road No. 2 Clearance Area was represented to the Council as unfit property and later a public inquiry was held by the Minister of Housing. This area comprised 70 houses with a population of 294. Since the commencement of the slum clearance programme a total of 186 houses with a population of 866 people have been represented as unfit.

On page 40 and onwards of the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector will be found details of the work of the sanitary inspectorate with regard to the housing progress in the Borough and reports on the work carried out in connection with food factories, cafes and dining rooms.

In conclusion, I should like to tender to you, and especially to your Health Committee and its Chairman, to the Town Clerk and the Chief Officials of the Corporation, my thanks for your encouragement and consideration, and to all the staff of the department my grateful acknowledgment of their help and assistance.

T. R. ROBERTON,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

## Section I

# CONSTITUTION OF COMMITTEE

## HEALTH COMMITTEE

ALDERMAN DR. HARRIS, J.P. (Chairman)

MR. ALDERMAN HARRISON, Deputy Chairman.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (ALDERMAN P. MAHON, J.P.)

MR. ALDERMAN CAIN, J.P.	MR. COUNCILLOR EDWARDS.
MR. ALDERMAN M. CONNOLLY, J.P.	MR. COUNCILLOR HOUGHTON.
MR. ALDERMAN T. CONNOLLY.	MR. COUNCILLOR HUGHES.
MR. ALDERMAN HEVEY.	MR. COUNCILLOR J. MAHON.
COUNCILLOR MRS. BRAY.	COUNCILLOR MRS. PEARSON.
MR. COUNCILLOR DOOLEY.	MR. COUNCILLOR ROGERSON.

### Co-opted Members:

*Representatives of the Bootle Local Medical Committee:*

DR. T. M. JONES and DR. J. S. WOOD, J.P.

*Representative of the Bootle Local Dental Committee:*

MR. J. D. CRIGHTON, J.P.

*Representative of the Bootle Pharmaceutical Committee:*

MR. L. D. PARRY.

*Representative of the North Liverpool Hospital Management Committee:*

MR. W. ROSS, J.P.



## Section II

### S T A F F

#### *Medical Officer of Health:*

T. R. ROBERTON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

#### *Deputy Medical Officer of Health:*

M. B. CLARKE, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

#### *Assistant Medical Officers of Health:*

C. M. CONNOLLY, M.B., B.CH., D.P.H.

B. S. JARVIS, M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.S.,  
L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

#### *Tuberculosis Officer (Joint Appointment):*

S. KALINSKY, M.B., CH.B.

#### *Senior Dental Officer:*

H. B. DAWES, L.D.S. (to 31.8.54)

#### *Assistant Dental Officers:*

D. N. MAXFIELD, L.D.S.  
(One Vacancy).

#### *Chief Administrative Assistant and Health Education Officer:*

H. ALLEN LORD, B.A. (Admin.)

#### *Superintendent Nursing Officer:*

MISS C. M. JONES, S.R.N., S.C.M.,  
H.V.CERT.

#### *Health Visitors (Tuberculosis):*

MISS J. LYNCH.

MISS S. RECK.

#### *Visiting Specialists:*

F. BAUER, F.R.C.S. EDIN., D.L.O.,  
Aural Surgeon.

E. ALLAN, M.B., CH.B.,  
Ophthalmic Surgeon.

F. C. DWYER, M.B., CH.B., F.R.C.S.,  
M.CH.ORTH., Orthopaedic Surgeon.

#### *Consultant Obstetrician:*

P. MALPAS, M.B., CH.M., F.R.C.S.,  
F.R.C.O.G.

#### *Public Analyst:*

J. F. CLARK, M.SC., D.I.C., F.R.I.C.

#### *Chief Sanitary Inspector:*

H. PARSONAGE, M.R.SAN.I.

#### *District Sanitary Inspectors:*

W. E. LEATHER (Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector).

J. M. CANGLEY.

S. T. DAVIES.

A. DOWNIE.

A. H. GELDER (to 4th Dec.).

S. HESKETH (Meat and Foods Inspector).

W. J. MASON.

#### *Municipal Midwives:*

MRS. E. H. HOY (Non-Medical Supervisor).

MRS. G. E. ASHTON (from 2nd June).

MRS. E. C. BARTLETT (to 31st Oct.).

MRS. M. A. E. CHAMBERLAIN.

MRS. M. W. DREWERY.

MRS. L. LINACRE (Temp.)

MRS. G. A. NEWNES.

MRS. C. K. DAVIES.

MRS. R. SHAW.

MRS. C. C. TAYLOR.

MISS A. E. THRASH (to 3rd June).

MRS. W. WORTHINGTON.



## STAFF—continued.

*Health Visitors:*

MISS E. BASSETT (to 30th April).  
 \*MRS. V. A. BENSON.  
 MRS. M. F. CORDON (to 29th Sept.).  
 MISS G. E. FOULKES (part-time).  
 MISS E. GROGAN.  
 MISS F. M. HUGHES.  
 MISS G. P. KENNEDY (to 30th June).  
 MISS E. L. THOMAS.  
 \*MISS D. STRICKLAND.

*Superintendent Home Nursing Service:*

MISS J. F. STODDART.

*Mental Health Officers:*

MR. J. W. HARPER  
     (Duly Authorised Officer).  
 MISS M. M. WINKLE      do.  
     S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.A.I.M.N. S.R.

*Domestic Help Supervisor:*

MRS. E. LANDER.

*Clerks:*

MR. H. A. BROWN, O.B.E.  
     (Chief Clerk) (to 31.3.54).  
 MR. K. W. BARKER (from 1.4.54).  
 MRS. E. ALLINSON.  
 MISS L. BOARDMAN.  
 MISS K. BURGESS.  
 MISS L. M. CARTER.  
 MISS D. M. LATIMER.  
 MRS. K. RILEY.  
 MISS A. M. GIRVAN  
     (Clinic Assistant).  
 MRS. A. E. KELLEY,      do.  
 MISS B. BURNETT  
     (Dental Attendant).  
 MRS. A. C. ROLLINSON  
     (Dental Attendant).

*Ambulance Supervisor:*

MR. J. FARRELLY.

*\*Combined Health Visiting and School Nursing duties.*

## Section III

## VITAL STATISTICS

Civilian Population (Registrar-General's estimate at mid-year 1954) ... ..	76,900
Population at Census of 1951 ... ..	74,302
Area in Acres (exclusive of river bed) ... ..	3,054
Inhabited houses (end of 1954) according to rate books ... ..	19,089
Uninhabited houses (end of 1954) according to rate books ... ..	159
Live Births—Males 855, Females 807 ... ..	1,662
Birth Rate (per 1,000 population) ... ..	21·61
Still Births—Males 17, Females 20 ... ..	37
Stillbirth Rate (per 1,000 total live and still births) ... ..	21·8
Total Deaths ... ..	685
Death Rate (per 1,000 population) ... ..	8·91
Number of Maternal Deaths ... ..	Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total births) ... ..	Nil
Number of Deaths of Infants under the age of one year ... .. (Legitimate 59, Illegitimate 3).	62
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births) ... .. (Legitimate 36·6, Illegitimate 61·2).	37·3
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... ..	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ... ..	1
Number of Deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis ... ..	20
Death Rate from Respiratory Tuberculosis (per 1,000 population) ... ..	0·26
Number of Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	21
Death Rate from all forms of Tuberculosis (per 1,000 population) ... ..	0·27
Area Comparability factors—Births 0·93, Deaths 1·41.	
Calculated on these factors, the	
Death Rate (per 1,000 population) is 12·56.	
Birth Rate (per 1,000 population) is 20·09.	

---

The Rateable Value of the Borough as at 1st April, 1954, was ... £567,897

The estimated product of a Penny Rate for 1954-55, was ... £2,300

In 1954-55 the General Rate was 24s. in the £.

The cost of the Health Services during 1954-55 was estimated at £47,684, equivalent to a rate of 1s. 8·73d. in the £.

## Section IV

# COMPARISON OF STATISTICS WITH THOSE OF PREVIOUS YEARS

### Population

The Census returns from the year 1881 show the population of the Borough as follows:—

1881	...	...	...	...	...	...	27,374
1891	...	...	...	...	...	...	49,217
1901	...	...	...	...	...	...	58,556
1911	...	...	...	...	...	...	69,876
1921	...	...	...	...	...	...	76,487
1931	...	...	...	...	...	...	76,770
1951	...	...	...	...	...	...	74,302

The Registrar-General's estimate of the civilian population at mid-year was 76,900. This estimate shows that the population of the Borough in 1954 was 570 more than in the summer of 1953, this figure including members of the Merchant Navy at home and abroad.

### Marriages

The Superintendent Registrar states that the number of marriages during the year was 574, compared with 651 last year.

### Births

During the year 1,662 live births were registered, representing a birth rate of 21·6 per 1,000 of the population, that for England and Wales being 15·2. There were 855 male and 807 female births. It will be noted that the birth rate is as usual well above the national rate.

## BIRTH RATES, 1873—1954

<i>Period</i>	<i>BOOTLE</i>		<i>England &amp; Wales</i>
	<i>Births</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000</i>
1873—1880 ... ..	6,846	38·6	35·4
1881—1890 ... ..	15,508	36·8	32·4
1891—1900 ... ..	17,716	33·2	29·9
1901—1910 ... ..	20,468	32·3	27·2
1911—1920 ... ..	20,748	27·6	21·8
1921—1930 ... ..	18,884	22·8	18·4
1931—1935 ... ..	8,367	21·8	15·0
1936—1940 ... ..	7,959	21·6	14·9
1941 ... ..	1,199	22·8	14·2
1942 ... ..	1,104	23·9	15·8
1943 ... ..	1,327	26·5	16·5
1944 ... ..	1,574	28·2	17·6
1945 ... ..	1,429	24·4	16·1
1946 ... ..	1,797	27·9	19·1
1947 ... ..	2,022	30·3	20·5
1948 ... ..	1,700	24·5	17·9
1949 ... ..	1,541	22·0	16·7
1950 ... ..	1,586	22·6	15·8
1951 ... ..	1,554	20·8	15·5
1952 ... ..	1,528	20·3	15·3
1953 ... ..	1,596	20·9	15·5
1954 ... ..	1,662	21·6	15·2

The illegitimate births (including stillbirths) numbered 50 and were 2·94 per cent. of the total live and still births. In 1953 the number was 57.

### Deaths

The total number of deaths of Bootle residents during 1954 was 685, including 39 who died in institutions within the Borough, and 330 who died in institutions outside the Borough, of whom 2 died in mental hospitals. This gives a total of 369 deaths in institutions, i.e., 53·9 per cent. of the total deaths, the same percentage as in 1953. The deaths during the year are equivalent to a death rate of 8·91 per 1,000 as compared with 7·89 per 1,000 in 1953. The rate for the 160 great towns of England and Wales is 11·1 per 1,000 population.

## DEATH RATES, 1873—1954

<i>Period</i>	<i>BOOTLE</i>		<i>England &amp; Wales</i>
	<i>Total Deaths</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000</i>
1873—1880 ... ..	3,823	21·7	21·2
1881—1890 ... ..	8,260	19·9	19·1
1891—1900 ... ..	10,942	20·6	18·2
1901—1910 ... ..	11,400	17·8	15·4
1911—1920 ... ..	12,470	17·1	14·3
1921—1930 ... ..	10,336	13·5	12·1
1931—1935 ... ..	5,212	13·5	12·0
1936—1940 ... ..	5,019	13·8	12·5
1941 ... ..	1,227	23·3	12·9
1942 ... ..	629	13·6	11·6
1943 ... ..	745	14·9	12·1
1944 ... ..	732	13·1	11·6
1945 ... ..	754	12·9	11·4
1946 ... ..	793	12·3	11·5
1947 ... ..	866	13·0	12·0
1948 ... ..	734	10·6	10·8
1949 ... ..	783	11·2	11·7
1950 ... ..	701	10·0	11·6
1951 ... ..	901	12·0	12·5
1952 ... ..	734	9·7	11·3
1953 ... ..	602	7·89	11·4
1954 ... ..	685	8·91	11·3

## COMPARATIVE MORTALITY AND BIRTH RATES

	<i>Death Rate all causes per 1,000 of population</i>	<i>Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of population</i>	<i>Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births</i>
BOOTLE ... ..	8·91	21·6	37·3
160 County Boroughs and Great Towns ...	11·1	15·2	25·2
160 Smaller Towns ... (Resident population 25,000 — 50,000 at 1951 Census)	11·3	14·9	26·6
England and Wales ...	11·3	15·2	25·5

## Causes of Death

The causes of death, classified according to age, are shown in the table on page 69.

*Communicable Diseases.*—Epidemic diseases, excluding tuberculosis, accounted for 50 deaths. There was one death from measles. Deaths from diarrhoea and enteritis numbered 1 as compared with 4 during 1953: This was an infant under one year.

*Respiratory Diseases.*—Pneumonia was responsible for 42 deaths, bronchitis for 45, and other respiratory diseases for 8, making the total deaths from respiratory diseases (excluding influenza and tuberculosis) 95. This amounts to 13·9 per cent. of the total deaths at all ages, as compared with 15·3 per cent. in 1953. Influenza was a cause of death in one case.

*Cancer.*—Cancer was registered as the cause of death in 126 cases, as compared with 110 in the preceding year. This represents a cancer death-rate of 1·84 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 1·4 during the year 1953.

*Violent Causes.*—There were 27 deaths from violent causes (including 5 from road traffic accidents and 2 from suicide).

*Neo-Natal Mortality.*—Forty children died before reaching the age of one month, of whom 33 died during the first week of life. This gives a neo-natal mortality rate of 24·0 per 1,000 births. Prematurity was responsible for 23 of the neo-natal deaths.

*Infant Mortality.*—There were 62 deaths of infants under the age of one year compared with 46 in 1953. The infant mortality rate was 37·3 per 1,000 births, compared with 28·82 in 1953. The average rate for the previous five years was 39·3.

The rate of infant mortality in males was 47·95 and in females 26·02.

Throughout England and Wales the rate of infant mortality was 25·5 per 1,000 births, and in the 160 great towns it was 25·2.

The rate of infant mortality in legitimate infants was 36·6, and in illegitimate infants the rate was 61·2.

The most important of the causes of infant death were: pneumonia, 8; congenital malformations, birth injuries and diseases peculiar to infancy, 9; premature birth, 23.

## INFANT MORTALITY RATE—BOOTLE COMPARED WITH ENGLAND AND WALES

<i>Years</i>				<i>BOOTLE</i>	<i>England &amp; Wales</i>
1901-05	...	...	...	166	138
1906-10	...	...	...	130	117
1911-15	...	...	...	133	110
1916-20	...	...	...	103	91
1921-25	...	...	...	91	76
1926-30	...	...	...	89	68
1931-35	...	...	...	87	62
1936-40	...	...	...	74	55
1941-45	...	...	...	77·2	49·8
1946	...	...	...	75	43
1947	...	...	...	91·5	41
1948	...	...	...	54·1	34
1949	...	...	...	54·5	32
1950	...	...	...	47·3	29·8
1951	...	...	...	39·9	29·6
1952	...	...	...	43·2	27·6
1953	...	...	...	28·8	26·8
1954	...	...	...	37·3	25·5

A tabular statement of the causes of death of children under the age of one year is given on page 70.

*Deaths of Children aged 1-5 years.*—There were 9 deaths of children aged 1 to 5 years, as compared with 7 in 1953. The causes of death were: tuberculosis, 2; meningococcal infection, 1; measles, 1; malignant neoplasm, 1; pneumonia, 1; congenital malformation, 2; other causes, 1.

*Maternal Mortality.*—There were no deaths certified as due to pregnancy or childbirth during the year.

*Inquests.*—Inquests were held on 26 deaths.



## Section V

# SERVICES PROVIDED UNDER PART III OF THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946

## Care of Mothers and Young Children

### *Notification of Births*

The number of births notified under Section 203 of the Public Health Act, 1936, was 908 live births and 7 stillbirths. Of these, 104 related to residents outside the Borough. The births to Bootle mothers, therefore, numbered 811, of which domiciliary births numbered 584 live births and 4 stillbirths, and hospital births numbered 220 live births and 3 stillbirths.

### *Care of Premature Infants*

Notification is made in cases where the birth weight is  $5\frac{1}{2}$ -lbs. or less. In the case of domiciliary confinements every effort is made to secure a separate bedroom for mother and infant, and to provide a draught-proof cot with detachable lining, suitable bedding, hot water bottles and special feeding bottles; if any of the latter requirements are not available they can be provided on loan from the Health Department.

In every case of premature birth occurring at home, close liaison is observed between the midwifery staff and the health visitors. Special reference is made by the hospital authorities to the midwifery service when premature babies are discharged from hospital. Information is given as to the child's general condition and methods of feeding, special attention being paid to these cases by the staff. Before the midwife relinquishes responsibility, arrangements are made for the Health Visitor for the district to take over early supervision.

The following notifications of premature births to mothers ordinarily resident in the Borough were received:—

#### *In Borough:—*

(a) Home	...	...	...	...	...	28
(b) Bootle Maternity Home	...	...	...	...	...	3

#### *Outside Borough:—*

(a) Walton Hospital	...	...	...	...	82
(b) Liverpool Maternity Hospital	...	...	...	...	14
(c) Other Hospitals,	...	...	...	...	13
					<hr/> 140 <hr/>

*Public Health (Ophthalmia Neonatorum) Regulations, 1926 to 1937*

One case of ophthalmia neonatorum was notified during the year; the vision was unimpaired.

*Ante-Natal Clinics*

Four Ante-Natal Clinics were held each week. During the year 629 new cases attended, corresponding to 37·0 per cent. of the total registered births; in addition, 178 cases carried over from the preceding year continued under supervision, and a total of 2,663 attendances was made, with an average of 13 patients per session. It should be noted that Bootle patients intending to enter Walton Hospital for confinement usually attend the Ante-Natal Clinic held at that Institution.

*Post-Natal Clinics*

During the year 89 mothers attended for post-natal examination.

*Infant Welfare Clinics*

Six infant clinic sessions were conducted weekly.

## INFANT WELFARE CLINICS

<i>Clinic</i>	<i>New Cases</i>			<i>Attendances</i>				
	<i>Under one year</i>	<i>One to five years</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Under one year</i>	<i>One to five years</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>No. of Sessions</i>	<i>Average attendance at clinic</i>
<i>Health Centre—</i>								
Monday afternoon ...	111	15	126	804	139	943	49	19·25
Wednesday afternoon ...	182	17	199	1758	172	1930	52	37·1
Thursday afternoon ...	144	15	159	1436	208	1644	51	32·2
<i>School Medical Offices</i>								
Tuesday afternoon ...	175	18	193	1346	102	1448	52	27·8
Thursday afternoon ...	139	17	156	1294	124	1418	51	27·8
<i>Netherton Clinic—</i>								
Friday afternoon ...	152	31	183	1421	401	1822	50	36·4
	903	113	1016	8059	1146	9205	305	30·1

### *Women's Club*

In conjunction with the Bootle Personal Service Society, a Women's Club was opened at the Health Centre in 1952. The Club met weekly and its activities included talks, educational films, instruction in handicrafts and the making of children's clothes. From an average attendance of 20, the membership steadily increased until the room at the Health Centre became too small for the increasing membership. The club met for the last time at the Health Centre on the 30th April, after which date the meetings were held in a larger room at the nearby Civil Defence Headquarters.

### *Supply of Welfare Foods*

At the end of June, responsibility for the distribution of Welfare Foods passed from the Ministry of Food to Local Health Authorities. In addition to the existing arrangements at the Health Centre, School Medical Offices and Women's Voluntary Services, new Distribution Centres were opened at 8 Trinity Road and the Group Medical Centre, Simons Croft, Ford.

Total issues during the six months of operation of the Council's Scheme were as follows:

<i>National Dried Milk (Tins)</i>	<i>Orange Juice (Bottles)</i>	<i>Cod Liver Oil (Bottles)</i>	<i>Vitamin Tablets (Packets)</i>
36,028	15,160	4,651	1,891

### *Residential Nursery, Formby*

This Residential Nursery, situated on the coast about 10 miles from Bootle, was opened on the 5th December, 1945, for the reception of 22 infants. For some years the Home made a valuable contribution to the Maternity and Child Welfare Service in that it accommodated infants of mothers who were in hospital or maternity home or whose economic status made it necessary for the child to be temporarily cared for away from home.

In September, 1949, the Nursery passed under the control of the newly formed Children's Committee for purposes of the Children Act, 1948, but the Public Health Department was responsible for the routine medical inspection of the children while resident in the Nursery and every child on admission and discharge was seen by one of the Medical Officers of the Department. The Children's Committee eventually decided to close the Nursery in June, 1954.

### *Convalescent Home Provision*

Convalescence for children under five years of age was arranged through the Liverpool Child Welfare Association (see below).

### *Rehabilitation*

In June the Health Committee approved of a mother and four children attending the Brentwood Recuperative Centre, Marple, for a period of one month.

### *Care of Illegitimate Children*

Special arrangements for the care of illegitimate children have been operating for some years. One of the Health Visitors is responsible for taking such action as is possible in the interests of the unmarried mother and her child.

Fifty-seven new cases were dealt with; these came to the notice of the Department from the following sources:—

#### *Before Confinement:—*

Moral Welfare Agencies	...	...	...	7
Walton Hospital	...	...	...	10
Ante-Natal Clinics	...	...	...	9
Municipal Midwives	...	...	...	5
Health Visitors	...	...	...	6
Found on district	...	...	...	10
Other Authorities and Agencies	...	...	...	4
Transferred from other local authorities	...	...	...	6
				<hr/> 57 <hr/>

The work done in this connection comprised 434 visits to homes and 20 office interviews.

Four unmarried expectant mothers were admitted to Homes of the Moral Welfare Agencies at the expense of the Corporation. Five unmarried mothers subsequently married.

The final disposal of 57 infants was as follows:—

Remained with Mother...	...	...	...	43
Legal Adoption	...	...	...	7
Removed from District or deceased	...	...	...	7

### *The Liverpool Child Welfare Association*

Representatives of this Association have attended clinics weekly to undertake on behalf of the Council arrangements for the supply and

fitting of orthopaedic appliances prescribed by the medical staff, and the provision of clothing, fireguards and convalescent home treatment. During the year the Association dealt with 176 new cases (32 children under 5 years and 144 school children); 85 children were sent to Convalescent Homes, with an average stay for 4 children under five of 44·25 days and for 81 children over five years of 27·14 days.

In addition, Camp Holidays of one week's duration were arranged for 15 girls and 1 boy.

The staff visited 1,604 cases at home, and 1,287 cases were interviewed at the clinic.

## Municipal Midwifery Service

### *Notification of Intention to Practise*

Twenty-two midwives gave notice during the year of their intention to practise midwifery in the Borough; 11 of these were municipal midwives, and 11 in the Bootle Maternity Home.

### *Cases attended by Municipal Midwives*

Cases attended (a) as midwife	...	...	...	555
(b) as maternity nurse	...	...	...	33
Home Visits (ante-natal)	...	...	...	6,010
„ „ (puerperium)	...	...	...	9,978

In addition the midwives made 3,892 home visits to 973 cases discharged from hospital or maternity home before the fourteenth day.

Of the total of 1,699 live and still births to Bootle mothers the municipal midwives attended 588 births (34·7 per cent.), and the remaining births took place in the following institutions:—

Walton Hospital	...	...	...	617
Liverpool Maternity Hospital	...	...	...	169
Bootle Maternity Home	...	...	...	123
Other Hospitals	...	...	...	133
Private Residences, etc.	...	...	...	69

(These figures include 37 stillbirths). 1111

Patients engage the services of the midwife nearest to their own homes, and the midwife is responsible for their ante-natal care from the date of booking.

### *Gas and Air Analgesia*

Eleven municipal midwives are qualified to administer gas-air analgesia; four sets of apparatus are in use.

During the year, gas-air analgesia was given in 532 cases; Pethidine was administered in 52 cases.



### *Medical Aid*

The services of medical practitioners were requested in 102 domiciliary maternity cases during the year. In 70 cases the medical practitioners had arranged to provide the patient with maternity medical services under the National Health Service. In the remaining 32 cases the Local Authority paid the fees of the practitioners.

### *Transport*

The Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives receives a car allowance based on mileage. Those municipal midwives who possess a bicycle receive an allowance of 13s. 0d. per month. During the night, if public service vehicles are not available, transport is provided from the Ambulance Depot, and if a vehicle is not available from the Depot the midwives hire a taxi.

## **Health Visiting**

### *Home Visitation*

The staff paid 21,493 home visits, including 8,528 visits to infants under one year, and 11,053 visits to children aged from one to five years.

### *Home Visits to Expectant Mothers*

The Health Visitors paid 480 home visits to expectant mothers to advise them on general and personal hygiene, with a view to promoting normal childbirth.

### *Staff*

The establishment provides for one Superintendent Nursing Officer and ten full-time health visitors, of whom one is mainly responsible for the care of unmarried mothers and their children. At the end of the year eight health visitors (two part time) were employed, and it has not been possible to maintain a full staff.

Because of the difficulty of obtaining health visitors, the Committee in November, 1948, approved of a scheme for the engagement of student health visitors who would attend a whole-time course of training at the Liverpool University School of Hygiene and would receive during the first year three-quarters of the minimum salary of a health visitor. After the period of training they would return to the service of the Authority for the remainder of the twelve months, and if successful in obtaining the Health Visitor's Certificate would, if required, give a further twelve months' service to the Authority. One student was engaged during the year.

## **Home Nursing**

### *Premises*

The Home Nursing Service continued to be administered from the new headquarters at 81 Balliol Road.

### *Staff*

All the Staff were non-resident with the exception of the Superintendent, who occupied a first floor flat. Miss J. F. Stoddart, who had been Superintendent since the 2nd April, 1951, resigned towards the end of the year and ceased duties on the 31st December. The establishment was increased in November and now provides for a Superintendent and 10 District Nurses. At the end of the year the staff consisted of the Superintendent, 2 full-time State Registered Nurses (one male); 4 part-time State Registered Nurses; 2 State Enrolled Assistant Nurses, and 2 non-enrolled Assistant Nurses (one part-time).

### *Visits*

During the year 33,686 visits were paid to 1,682 patients, including 209 cases carried over from 1953.

### *Transport*

The Home Nurses are granted a cycle allowance of 13s. per month.

## **Vaccination and Immunisation**

### *Vaccination*

During the year vaccination continued to be carried out by general practitioners and by the Local Health Authority's medical staff. The numbers dealt with were as follows:—

By general practitioners	...	...	...	446
By Local Health Authority's staff	...	...	...	361

The number of children under one year vaccinated was 704 (388 by general practitioners and 316 by the medical staff of the Department). This represents 42·4 per cent. of the live births during the year.

### *Immunisation*

During 1932 a scheme was inaugurated whereby a specific clinic appointment for immunisation against diphtheria is made to parents when their children reach the age of nine months. During the year a total of 1,229 children completed the series of inoculations. This compares with 1,151 children inoculated in 1953. A reinforcing inoculation was given to 595 previously inoculated children. The present position is that 47·6 per cent. of children under five years of age, and 79·24 per cent. of children between the ages of five and fifteen years, have been protected against this disease.

Parents are advised that immunisation can be carried out either by their own doctor or by the Local Health Authority's medical staff.

The following table shows the number of children completing the series of inoculations since the inauguration of the scheme.



Age at date of inoculation	1932-38	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	Total
Under one year ...	5	3	2	1	4	4	48	53	94	554	679	421	277	374	402	444	489	Under five years 3476
1 and under 2 years	190	44	43	45	196	314	459	720	649	417	320	332	410	399	271	253	291	
2 and under 3 years	271	46	46	64	239	250	157	154	81	48	50	62	43	35	51	57	47	
3 and under 4 years	295	49	29	108	208	156	74	91	60	36	42	32	26	25	41	36	45	
4 and under 5 years	258	37	22	76	209	193	100	52	64	37	36	49	38	10	30	30	40	
5 and under 6 years	1777	66	15	213	405	338	221	211	352	187	206	232	225	12	238	206	...	5-9 years 5681
6 and under 7 years	1605	199	4	440	290	135	71	57	79	38	56	36	40	4	55	103	...	
7 and under 8 years	446	10	6	115	135	56	16	11	10	1	2	5	6	1	15	20	312	
8 and under 9 years	123	7	3	44	101	52	9	6	5	—	—	2	1	1	6	1	...	
9 and under 10 yrs.	45	6	—	28	52	41	5	5	4	1	4	3	1	1	1	—	...	
10 and under 11 yrs.	30	1	1	45	90	52	4	2	5	1	1	—	—	2	1	—	...	
11 and under 12 yrs.	26	4	1	50	56	45	3	2	3	2	—	—	—	2	1	1	...	
12 and under 13 yrs.	15	1	—	38	80	38	—	3	6	—	1	2	2	—	—	—	5	10-14 years 4859
13 and under 14 yrs.	10	—	—	36	96	22	4	—	2	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	...	
14 and under 15 yrs.	2	—	—	30	58	15	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	...	
15 years and over	366	5	—	9	41	2	1	2	5	—	1	2	3	5	1	1	—	
TOTALS ...	5464	478	172	1342	2260	1713	1172	1369	1420	1322	1399	1180	1073	871	1113	1152	1229	24,729

### Immunisation against Whooping Cough

In November, 1952, the Medical Officer of Health recommended the Health Committee to provide facilities for the immunisation of young children against whooping cough. This recommendation was adopted and came into operation the following year. During 1954, the number of children who received the full course of inoculations was as follows:

By General Practitioners	...	...	...	119
By the Local Authority's Staff	...	...	...	325

### Ambulance Service

#### *Administration*

The Ambulance Service is under the control of the Medical Officer of Health.

#### *Mutual Aid*

Arrangements with the Lancashire County Council and the Liverpool City Council for mutual aid in cases of emergency have been continued.

#### *Vehicles*

The vehicles now in use comprise a Daimler ambulance, two Bedford chassis with Lomas bodies, and two Austin ambulances, together with a Chrysler saloon which is used for sitting cases. An old Austin ambulance has been reconditioned for Civil Defence purposes.

During the year the number of calls dealt with was as follows:—

	Day 7 a.m.—11 p.m.	Night 11 p.m.—7 a.m.
Hospital Transfers ...	2901	81
Accidents (a) Docks ...	379	54
(b) Elsewhere	790	64
Sickness and Maternity...	2211	535
Removals on behalf of		
Lancs. C.C. ...	40	3
Mental Health Service ...	426	7
Others ... ..	116	11
	<hr/> 6863	<hr/> 755

In 1953 the comparative figures were 6,650 day calls and 788 night calls.

The number of patients in the above categories removed during the year was 19,283, as against 19,530 last year.

In addition, 252 cases of infectious disease were removed to hospital by the ambulance allocated to this work, which also conveyed 379 tuberculous patients for X-ray examination, re-fills, etc.

## **Prevention of Illness (Care and After-Care)**

### *Tuberculosis*

The Health Committee has appointed a Care Sub-Committee to deal with the special problems of tuberculous patients in the home. In addition to the visits paid by the Tuberculosis Visitor, visits to the homes of tuberculous patients are paid by Health Visitors and assistance is given in providing nursing requisites, sputum flasks, etc. Where the housing accommodation is overcrowded or unsuitable, representations are made by the Medical Officer of Health to the Housing Committee so that priority can be given to such cases.

### *B.C.G. Vaccination*

The approval of the Ministry of Health has been obtained to an amendment of the Council's proposals under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, to permit the Council to provide for B.C.G. vaccination in suitable cases for persons in contact with tuberculous infection. During the year 54 children were vaccinated.

### *Mental Illness or Defectiveness*

Two whole-time mental health workers are engaged, and they made 179 pre-care and 765 after-care visits during the year.

### *Training of Defectives*

By arrangement with the Lancashire County Council, mental defectives under supervision attend the Occupation Centre, Waterloo. Eleven children were attending the Centre at the end of 1954. Ten children are on the waiting list for admission, but there is little prospect of these and other suitable cases being admitted in the near future. It is to be regretted that more Occupation Centre accommodation is not available for Bootle children, as this would relieve the strain and tension on the mothers and provide training for young mental defectives.

### *Provision of Sick-room Equipment*

Articles of sick-room equipment are stored at the headquarters of the Home Nursing Service and are issued on loan. A deposit is requested and is refunded when the articles are returned in good condition.

### *Convalescence*

In accordance with Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, convalescence not involving medical treatment was arranged for patients recommended by general practitioners. A period of convalescence was approved by the Health Committee for 12 patients.

## **Health Education**

### *General Publicity*

The use of the Exhibition Service of the Central Council for Health Education has been continued during the year and various topics displayed on the exhibition stand at the Health Centre. In addition, other posters and leaflets issued by the Central Council have been utilised.

## **Domestic Help Service**

During the year the equivalent of 13 full-time workers has been engaged, together with the supervisor, and 109 new cases received assistance; these with 69 cases carried over from 1953 made a total of 178 cases dealt with during the year.

The following is a classification of the cases assisted:—

Type of Case	Households provided with help	No. of Hours worked
(a) Tuberculosis ...	8	2,059
(b) Maternity ... ..	25	1,188
(c) Chronic Sick including aged and infirm	110	21,455
(d) Others ... ..	35	3,402
	<hr/> 178	<hr/> 28,104

The scale of assessment recommended by the Association of Municipal Corporations has been applied, but in April this was amended, the most important alteration being the increase of personal allowances. Any householder utilising the Service has a right to appeal against the assessment in cases where it is felt that the scale would impose undue hardship, and these appeals are dealt with by the Health Committee.

## Section VI

### MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

The Mental Health Section of the Department continued throughout the year to fulfil all demands in connection with:—

1. The visitation, certification and removal of persons of unsound mind to mental hospitals in accordance with the Lunacy Act, 1890.
2. The visitation and subsequent arrangements for the admission and treatment of "voluntary" patients in mental hospitals as provided for under the Mental Treatment Act, 1930.
3. The domiciliary after-care and welfare of patients discharged from mental hospitals and recommended for such care.
4. The domiciliary supervision of all notified cases of mental deficiency, the home visitation and welfare of mental defectives under guardianship, and the detailed arrangements arising in connection with the removal of those mental defectives whom it is found necessary to admit to institutions or colonies.

The Duly Authorised Officers are available for duty outside office hours and the two Officers undertake full stand-by for night and week-end duty if required. They are provided with a telephone and the Police Department and the medical practitioners are supplied with information to enable them to contact the officer on duty.

Details of the service are as follows:—

#### 1. Administration

- (a) The Mental Health Sub-Committee consists of 5 members of the Health Committee. The work of this Sub-Committee has been amalgamated into the general work of the Health Committee which meets monthly.
- (b) *Staff.*—The medical direction of the service is the responsibility of the Medical Officer of Health, and by arrangement with the Liverpool City Council the services of a specialist medical officer with experience in both mental illness and mental defectiveness are available. Two mental health workers are engaged, one male and one female, and these have been designated "Duly Authorised Officers."
- (c) *Co-ordination with Regional Hospital Board and Hospital Management Committee.*—By arrangement with the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board, the services of one or more specialist medical officers are available in a consultative capacity in connection with the ascertainment of mental defectives.



The supervision of patients on trial or on licence from Mental Hospitals and Institutions for Mental Defectives is carried out on behalf of the Hospitals and Institutions by the Mental Health Workers of the local authority.

- (d) No duties have been delegated to voluntary associations.
- (e) No arrangements have been initiated for the training of additional Mental Health Workers.

## 2. Account of Work undertaken in the Community

- (a) *National Health Service Act, 1946, Sec. 28: Prevention, Care and After-Care.*—During the year, the number of pre-care visits made was 179, and for after-care purposes following up patients discharged from hospitals, 765 visits. Seven female senile dementia patients were removed to Newsham General Hospital, and four male senile dementia patients were removed to Westminster House. Arrangements were made for 12 patients to attend Psychiatric Clinics, for which full case histories are compiled for the Psychiatrist attending.
- (b) *Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, 1890—1930.*—Under the Lunacy Act, 1890, as amended by the National Health Service Act, 1946, 27 cases were removed for observation under Sec. 20 of the Lunacy Act to Sefton Mental Hospital, 38 to Ormskirk Mental Hospital, one to Whiston Hospital, and two to Winwick Hospital, Warrington.

One patient was certified in Ormskirk Hospital and escorted to Rainhill Hospital for treatment.

Two patients were certified at home and escorted to Winwick Hospital.

One patient was certified in Ormskirk Hospital and escorted to Winwick Hospital.

Two patients were removed from Sefton Mental Hospital and escorted to Connolly House, Bootle.

One patient was escorted home from Bootle Hospital.

Five voluntary patients were escorted to Rainhill Hospital.

Investigations for mental disorder were carried out for 66 persons reported to the Service.

The total number of visits during the year amounted to 1,387.

- (c) *Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913—1938.*

- (i) *Supervision of Patients on Licence.*—Twenty-five visits were made in respect of patients on licence from Institutions and 28 visits with regard to home reports for re-certification purposes. In addition, 18 home reports were submitted to Institutions for holiday licences for defectives.

- (ii) *Ascertainment*.—During the year 10 mental defectives were ascertained and found subject to be dealt with. The total on the register at the end of the year was 235 as follows:—

In Institutions	...	...	...	...	106
Guardianship	...	...	...	...	4
Patients on licence from Institutions	...				4
Patients under statutory supervision	...				110
Patients under voluntary supervision	...				11

One mental defective is awaiting a vacancy in an Institution.

- (iii) *Guardianship*.—Two guardianship cases at St. Saviours Convent, Edge Lane, Liverpool, are visited by officers of the Liverpool Mental Health Service by arrangement, as suggested by the Ministry.

Two mentally defective persons were placed under guardianship during the year.

- (iv) 589 domiciliary visits were made for statutory and voluntary supervision of mental defectives.
- (v) *Institutional Cases*.—One defective who had absconded from an Institution was escorted from Bootle Police Station to Newchurch Hospital, Culcheth, near Warrington.
- (vi) *Training*.—By arrangement with the Lancashire County Council, eleven mental defectives are attending the Occupation Centre at Waterloo.

Ten other defectives are now on the waiting list for Occupation Centre training.

### 3. Staff

Two whole-time mental health workers are employed (one male and one female). They had experience under the Public Assistance regime prior to the appointed day and attended a course on Mental Health at the Department of Extra Mural Studies of the Liverpool University. Both are Duly Authorised Officers for the purposes of the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts and are also authorised to present Petitions under the Mental Deficiency Acts.

Night duty is shared by the two officers who are also responsible for the clerical work and records of the department. They are provided with a telephone at home, and the Police Department and the medical practitioners are supplied with information to enable them to contact the officer on duty, after office hours.

### 4. Some Typical Cases.

Prevention as well as after-care occupies an important part of the mental health work in the County Borough. Generally, patients are sent to psychiatric clinics by practitioners and admitted to the mental



hospital, if necessary, as and when beds are available. On admission to hospital notices of admission are sent to the medical superintendent, but not until the patients are discharged do they come under the care of the Mental Health Service, excepting where there are domestic problems or particular stresses in the home. A number of cases, however, are referred to the Service direct by the practitioners, probation officers, the general public, police and other agencies. Some of these patients who are more in need of social therapy than psychotherapy are usually dealt with by the mental health worker, always with the consent of the patient's own doctor. The following brief notes give some indication of the type of case dealt with:

Patient J. was referred by his doctor as having taken an overdose of phenobarbitone tablets. He appeared on interview to be a sensitive type, not capable of standing up to adverse conditions. He was employed in a large factory outside the Borough and was working in a gang with whom he had little in common. With the co-operation of the welfare worker of the factory, the patient was eventually placed in work of a more congenial and helpful character and has since continued to make good progress.

Patient M., 30 years of age, imagined she had carcinoma. She had been an in-patient in a general hospital where the malady was excluded, but she could not be convinced even by the medical attendant that her trouble was psychiatric. Arrangements were made for her attendance at a clinic, a full history having been previously submitted, and because it was suspected that the husband had contributed in a large measure to his wife's breakdown, he was requested to accompany her to the clinic, where she was asked to undertake voluntary treatment in a mental hospital. It took some weeks follow-up before the patient was eventually persuaded to go into hospital.

P. is an epileptic of the Equivalent type. He is a man of Herculean proportions and when in violent mood had to be dealt with "for the public safety." He had been removed a dozen times to an observation ward under the provisions of Section 20 of the Lunacy Act, 1890, but was never put under a certificate. The patient was almost invariably discharged home next day. On the last occasion he was apprehended and charged by the police with being drunk and disorderly. He appeared before the magistrates the following morning and since then he has been on his best behaviour.

B., who is a single woman, 50 years of age, was referred by an officer of the National Assistance Board. The patient's doctor when contacted was of the opinion that she was "a mentally subnormal type and not certifiable." B. is an inadequate personality and is residing with her father 86 years of age. The father, who is senile, refused to be admitted to hospital and has great faith in his daughter's ability to look after him. Some action was indicated, however, due to the dirty and untidy condition of the household. Various depart-

ments of the Corporation were asked to co-operate—district nurse, sanitary department, domestic helps—and the house was cleaned. With the assistance of the N.A.B. and a local fund, new bedding and clothing were supplied.

In dealing with the psychoses, the duly authorised officers endeavour, as far as is practicable, to follow the principle laid down in the memorandum issued by the Board of Control, which accompanied the Mental Treatment Act of 1930. "It is important that the Relieving Officer (Duly Authorised Officer) should have in mind three possible methods—(1) Voluntary Treatment; (2) Temporary Treatment; (3) Certification."

Most of the voluntary cases are admitted via the psychiatric clinics and some of the patients are accompanied by the mental health workers.

Temporary treatment does not seem to be very popular in this area. It is somewhat cumbersome and is not much used.

Certification is in most cases carried out in the observation wards, sometimes with the assistance of the Duly Authorised Officer, the patient having previously been admitted on a "Three Day Order."

Cases of Senile Dementia present a problem. With regard to female patients, particularly, there is a long waiting list in the senile dementia wards of the hospital. Occasionally a case is admitted as a voluntary patient, and only where there are marked behaviour troubles are patients dealt with under the Lunacy Act.

## Section VII

## DENTAL TREATMENT OF EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

The following report has been supplied by the Dental Officer:—

## (a) PATIENTS PROVIDED WITH DENTAL CARE

	<i>Examined</i>	<i>Needing Treatment</i>	<i>Treated</i>	<i>Made Dentally Fit</i>
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	67	66	60	50
Children under Five ... ..	128	123	123	111

## (b) FORMS OF DENTAL TREATMENT PROVIDED

	<i>Ex-trac-tions</i>	<i>Anaesthetics</i>		<i>Fill-ings</i>	<i>Scal-ings or Scal-ing &amp; Gum Treat-ment</i>	<i>Silver Nitrate Treat-ment</i>	<i>Dres-sings</i>	<i>Radio-graphs</i>	<i>Dentures Provided</i>	
		<i>Local</i>	<i>Gen-eral</i>						<i>Com-plete</i>	<i>Par-tial</i>
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	213	49	5	20	15	—	3	—	58	10
Children under Five	154	—	99	6	—	—	—	—	—	—

*X-Ray Examinations.*—Facilities for X-ray examinations are available at the Liverpool Dental Hospital.

## Section VIII

## COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

The number of cases of infectious disease notified during the year is summarised as follows:—

			Cases notified	Cases admitted to hospital	Deaths
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	...	...	68 (2)	26	—
Diphtheria	...	...	3 (3)	3	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	1	—	—
Erysipelas	...	...	2	—	—
Measles	...	...	770	30	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	269	18	1
Infant Diarrhoea (under two years) voluntarily notifiable			9	7	1
Pneumonia	...	...	16	4	42
Meningococcal Infections	...	...	10 (5)	10	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	4	2	—
Dysentery	...	...	7 (3)	6	—
Food Poisoning	...	...	2	2	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	3 (3)	3	1
Malaria	...	...	1	1	—
*Tuberculosis—			129.		
(a) Pulmonary	...	...	120	—	20
(b) Non-Pulmonary	...	...	9 (1)	—	1

\*Primary notifications.

(The totals in brackets give number of cases where diagnosis was not confirmed).

*Food Poisoning.*—Two cases of food poisoning were notified to the Department.

Food poisoning notifications (corrected) were returned to the Registrar General as follows:—

1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Total
—	—	—	2	2

*Outbreaks due to Identified Agents:—*

Total outbreaks ... Nil. Total cases ... Nil.

*Outbreaks of Undiscovered Cause:—*

Total outbreaks ... Nil. Total cases ... Nil.

*Single Cases:—*

Agents identified ... 2      Unknown cause Nil      Total 2  
Typhi murium 2

## Section IX

## TUBERCULOSIS

*Notification Register.*—The register on 31st December, 1954, included 378 males, 376 females and 31 children suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis, and 18 males, 25 females and 16 children suffering from non-pulmonary tuberculosis, making a total of 844 cases as compared with 871 at the end of 1953.

*Incidence.*—The number of new cases notified during the year under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1930, was 138 (129 pulmonary and 9 non-pulmonary), as compared with 149 for the previous year.

Notifications during recent years were as follows:—

Year							Tuberculosis Notifications
1940	...	...	...	...	...	...	150
1941	...	...	...	...	...	...	142
1942	...	...	...	...	...	...	169
1943	...	...	...	...	...	...	186
1944	...	...	...	...	...	...	162
1945	...	...	...	...	...	...	173
1946	...	...	...	...	...	...	190
1947	...	...	...	...	...	...	152
1948	...	...	...	...	...	...	167
1949	...	...	...	...	...	...	181
1950	...	...	...	...	...	...	165
1951	...	...	...	...	...	...	197*
1952	...	...	...	...	...	...	181
1953	...	...	...	...	...	...	149
1954	...	...	...	...	...	...	138

*Mortality.*—The number of deaths caused by tuberculosis during the year was 21 amounting to 3·06 per cent. of the deaths from all causes and giving a death-rate from this cause of 0·27 per 1,000 of the population, as against 0·29 last year.

## Pulmonary Tuberculosis

*Incidence.*—One hundred and twenty-nine new cases suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during 1954, a decrease of 9 compared with the previous year. The numbers notified during the past few years were as follows:—



Year	Notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis					
1944	...	...	...	...	...	135
1945	...	...	...	...	...	142
1946	...	...	...	...	...	161
1947	...	...	...	...	...	123
1948	...	...	...	...	...	137
1949	...	...	...	...	...	164
1950	...	...	...	...	...	145
1951	...	...	...	...	...	180*
1952	...	...	...	...	...	163
1953	...	...	...	...	...	138
1954	...	...	...	...	...	129

\*Includes 15 Netherton cases transferred consequent upon extension of Borough boundaries.

In 1 case notification was made less than three months before death, and two cases were taken from the death returns.

*Mortality.*—During the year, 20 deaths were certified to be due to pulmonary tuberculosis, representing a rate of 0·26 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 0·26 in 1953, 0·42 in 1952, 0·49 in 1951, 0·84 in 1950, 0·94 in 1949, 0·80 in 1948, 0·81 in 1947, and 1·04 in 1946. There were 11 deaths among males and 9 among females.

*Chest Clinic.*—During the year the Tuberculosis Officer examined 735 patients newly referred of whom 39 were sent by the School Medical Officers for opinion preliminary to notification. Attention continued to be paid to securing the attendance for examination of contacts of notified cases, and 481 Mantoux tests were made. Of these contacts 411 were new cases and 346 were old cases who were re-examined. The Tuberculosis Visitors made 2,442 visits to homes of tuberculous patients.

During the year 54 children received B.C.G. vaccination.

The number of contacts examined and the number of home visits has shown a considerable increase during the past two years, largely due to the appointment of an additional Tuberculosis Visitor towards the end of 1950. The following table shows this comparison:—

Year	Contacts examined				Home Visits	
1948	...	...	...	75	...	553
1949	...	...	...	140	...	516
1950	...	...	...	263	...	470
1951	...	...	...	504	...	2,035
1952	...	...	...	463	...	2,274
1953	...	...	...	577	...	2,397
1954	...	...	...	757	...	2,442

## Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis

*Incidence.*—During the year 9 new cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified, as compared with 11 in 1953, namely:—3 bone and joint, 2 glands, 1 meninges, and 3 other sites.

*Mortality.*—One death was certified to be due to non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

*Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.*—There was no occasion to take action under the above Regulations relating to tuberculous employees in the milk trade.

*Public Health Act, 1936: Section 172.*—No action was taken under this Section dealing with the compulsory removal of cases of tuberculosis to hospital.

## Preventive, Care and After-Care Services

- (i) *Ascertainment of Contacts.*—In every case, after receipt of a notification, a visit is paid to the home with the object of tracing contacts and arrangements are made for their examination at the Chest Clinic.

In the case of children under 15, the Chest Physician examines with a view to ascertaining whether B.C.G. Vaccination should be given. Adults are referred to Walton Hospital for a 5" x 4" film, which is then forwarded to the Chest Physician.

In this connection special clinics are held twice weekly for children who are contacts of notified and known cases, or are referred to the Chest Clinic by general practitioners or the medical staff of the Department. By this means the children are kept separate from any known cases of tuberculosis while attending the Clinic.

The number of contacts examined in relation to the number of notified cases in recent years is as follows:—

Year	Cases Notified (Pulmonary)	Contacts examined
1950	145	263
1951	180	504
1952	163	463
1953	138	577
1954	129	757

- (ii) *Employment of Tuberculosis Patients.*—About one-third of the cases on the register are known to be working, but in the main, these are quiescent cases, as it is very difficult for patients with a positive sputum to obtain employment (unless they fail to disclose this information when applying for work). There is a local branch of Remploi in the Borough and some of the patients have found employment there.



The patients who are working are kept under observation, and generally speaking, they are found able to maintain themselves in employment. It seems likely that this is due to the fact that owing to the financial help now obtainable through the National Assistance Board, patients are not as anxious as formerly to return to work before they are sufficiently recovered to undertake full employment.

Another factor bearing on this matter is the number of cases which are now treated in the early stages of the disease, these cases being found through efficient contact tracing and the Mass Miniature Radiography Unit.

- (iii) *Notifications after Death.*—In every case where notification is received after the death of the patient, the contacts are traced and urged to attend for examination.
- (iv) *Ascertainment and Follow-Up of Early Cases among Children.*—The Mass Miniature Radiography Unit visits the schools in the Borough from time to time, and in addition, the general practitioners are very co-operative in referring children to the Chest Clinic. Probably 50 per cent. of the children examined are sent in by the general practitioners, the remainder being sent by the Medical Staff of the Department. In all cases of a primary lesion in children, home contacts are traced and arrangements made for their examination.

### Mass Miniature Radiography Unit

The Mass Miniature Radiography Unit of the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board visited the Bootle area during the first three months of the year and I am indebted to the Unit Secretary for the following details:—

	TOTAL		GRAND TOTAL
	Male	Female	
Total number of miniature examinations ...	3000	2934	5934
Classification of cases diagnosed:—			
Active pulmonary tuberculosis ...	5	12	17
Inactive pulmonary tuberculosis (post-primary) ... ..	34	24	58
Bronchiectasis ... ..	6	3	9
Pneumoconiosis ... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil
Neoplasm ... ..	Nil	3	3
Cardiac Abnormalities ... ..	16	37	53
Other Abnormalities ... ..	202	133	335
Cases not yet diagnosed ... ..	11	8	19
Total Abnormals ...	274	220	494
Total Normals ...	2726	2714	5440
GRAND TOTAL	3000	2934	5934

# TUBERCULOSIS MORTALITY, BOOTLE AND ENGLAND AND WALES, 1926—1953

<i>Year</i>	<i>Deaths from Tuberculosis (All Forms) per 1,000 population</i>	
	<i>BOOTLE</i>	<i>England &amp; Wales</i>
1926	1·5	0·96
1927	1·5	0·97
1928	1·3	0·93
1929	1·3	0·91
1930	1·3	0·90
1931	1·59	0·89
1932	1·34	0·84
1933	1·50	0·82
1934	1·37	0·76
1935	1·17	0·72
1936	1·34	0·69
1937	1·11	0·69
1938	1·05	0·63
1939	1·08	0·58
1940	1·03	0·67
1941	1·62	0·73
1942	1·37	0·65
1943	1·28	0·67
1944	1·14	0·63
1945	1·01	0·62
1946	1·20	0·55
1947	0·92	0·55
1948	0·92	0·51
1949	1·04	0·45
1950	0·88	0·36
1951	0·54	0·31
1952	0·53	0·24
1953	0·29	0·20
1954	0·27	0·18

## Section X

### VENEREAL DISEASES

The treatment of Venereal Disease became the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board as from 5th July, 1948.

The Annual Statistical Report of the Medical Officer of the Treatment Centres shows 124 persons under treatment on 31st December, 1954, as against 201 on 1st January, 1954, and a decrease in new cases, the figure being 306, as contrasted with 311 in 1953. The total of 306 included 120 cases in which the diagnosis of venereal disease was not established; there was a decrease in the new cases of gonorrhoea and syphilis.

The total attendances for treatment made at the Centre during the year show a decrease from 2,939 to 2,222. During 1954, 314 cases were discharged on completion of treatment and observation, as against 363 in the previous year.

The following table is a statement of the number of cases presenting themselves for treatment during the last six years:—

#### BOOTLE VENEREAL DISEASES CLINIC

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
New Cases (total) ... ..	438	382	400	330	311	306
New Cases (syphilis) ... ..	66	75	54	48	16	14
New Cases (gonorrhoea) ... ..	168	161	166	113	52	37
Total Attendances (excluding intermediate treatment) ... ..	5293	4745	4592	4157	2922	2222
Attendances for intermediate treatment ... ..	441	198	182	265	17	—
No. discharged after completion of observation and treatment ... ..	220	229	195	331	363	314
No. who ceased to attend after completion of treatment, but before final tests as to cure ... ..	42	32	25	18	26	22

Lancashire County Council residents accounted for 33·3 % of the new cases under treatment at the Bootle Hospital Centre, the Authorities contributing the next largest number of cases being Bootle with 26·1 %, Liverpool with 17·3 % and Others, 23·3 %.

The follow-up of defaulters is undertaken by a health visitor (for females) and a sanitary inspector (for males) and every effort is made to persuade them to continue treatment at the Clinic.

## Section XI

## BLIND WELFARE

The administration of the Council's Blind Welfare Scheme is the responsibility of the Social Services Committee.

The number of blind persons on the register at the end of 1954 was 205 (84 men, and 116 women and 5 children). The number of partially sighted persons on the register was 61 (17 men, 40 women and 4 children).

The Medical Officer is indebted to the Social Services Officer for the information in Part A of the following statement:—

A. FOLLOW-UP OF REGISTERED BLIND AND  
PARTIALLY SIGHTED PERSONS

	Cause of Disability			
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Retrolental Fibroplasia	Others
(i) Number of cases registered during the year in respect of which para. 7(c) of Form B.D.8 recommends:—				
(a) No treatment ... ..	23	6	2	19
(b) Treatment (medical, surgical or optical) ... ..	9	—	—	4
(ii) Number of cases at (i) (b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment ... ..	6	—	—	3

*Total Number of Forms B.D.8 received during the year.*—52, but 11 of these cases appear twice in the above table as the patients were suffering from a double disability.

The following are the numbers of Blind and Partially-Sighted Persons on the registers at 31st December, 1954:—

*Blind Register:—*

	Males	Females	Total
Adults ... ..	84	116	200
Children ... ..	—	5	5
Total	84	121	205

*Partially-Sighted Register:—*

	Males	Females	Total
Adults ... ..	17	40	57
Children ... ..	1	3	4
Total	18	43	61

**B. OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM**

(i)	Total number of cases notified during the year	1
(ii)	Number of cases in which:—	
(a)	Vision lost ... ..	—
(b)	Vision impaired ... ..	—
(c)	Treatment continuing at end of year ...	—

**Section XII****EPILEPSY AND CEREBRAL PALSY****Epilepsy**

It is difficult to assess the incidence of epilepsy as the condition is not notifiable, but the following statistics have been supplied by the Social Services Officer:—

			Males	Females	Total
Domiciliary	...	...	4	6	10
Colony	...	...	5	3	8
Institution	...	...	—	—	—
			—	—	—
		Total	9	9	18
			—	—	—

In addition, the Local Education Department have 4 cases in their records, and these are receiving special educational treatment either at home or in special schools.

**Cerebral Palsy**

The incidence of this disease is not known completely as it is not notifiable. The Social Services Department have the following cases under supervision:—

			Males	Females	Total
Domiciliary	...	...	2	2	4

while the Education Department have records of 19 cases of whom 5 are receiving special educational treatment, either at home or in special schools.

**Facilities available for Handicapped Persons**

There are no specific facilities provided by the Health Department for these groups of handicapped persons, and no fixed arrangements have been made with the Social Services Department who have responsibilities to handicapped persons under the National Assistance Act. Each case is judged on its merits and co-ordination with the other health and welfare services is easily obtained.



## Section XIII

### SANITARY CONDITIONS

The steady progress which has been apparent in recent years was maintained during 1954. Further notable progress was made in the slum clearance scheme which commenced in 1951.

The re-housing of the occupants of houses in the Derby Road No. 1 Clearance Area and the demolition of the vacated houses is proceeding satisfactorily. A public inquiry was held into an objection made by an owner of some properties in the Bootle No. 2 Compulsory Purchase Order.

A survey was carried out of three proposed slum clearance areas which will be officially represented early next year. Further details of the progress of slum clearance are set-out elsewhere in this report.

Active steps continued to be taken to reduce the amount of atmospheric pollution, but as stated in previous annual reports, there does not appear to be any quick solution to this intractable problem, as one of the greatest difficulties is the absence of any form of effective control over domestic fires. In this connection, it is anticipated that the proposed Clean Air Bill will be passed into law next year and considerable interest has been evoked as to whether the Government proposes to implement all the recommendations of the Air Pollution Committee. Whatever the extent of the new law, it is certain that there will be a vast increase in the volume of work to be done by the Sanitary Inspectors engaged on air pollution control.

A special survey was made of the Borough during the year with the object of establishing a Smokeless Zone, but this matter has been left in abeyance pending the passing into law of the Clean Air Bill.

Lectures continue to be held at the Liverpool University School of Hygiene, and successful efforts have been made to persuade boiler firemen to attend, with gratifying results. All new plans of factories and similar premises, where combustion of fuel is necessary, are given special attention before informal prior approval is given.

There were 3,898 complaints from householders, and notices were served in respect of 7,198 nuisances, an increase of 1,225 nuisances on the previous year, and the number of complaints increased by 804. The increase in the number of nuisances is due, mainly, to the number of nuisances discovered during the frequent surveys which have been made in connection with slum clearance and other housing purposes.

The value of carrying out "work in default" under the terms of the relevant sections of the Public Health Act, 1936, and the Bootle Corporation Act, cannot be too often stressed, as the slow process of instituting legal proceedings is obviated, and conditions inimical to health are speedily removed. That owners have confidence in the way the Sanitary Inspectors supervise work carried out on their properties is indicated by the number of requests that are received for the Corporation to execute works on their behalf.

The prevention of the spread of infectious disease, and the supervision of premises used for the sale of ice-cream have been given particular attention; also the enforcement of the provisions of the Food and Drugs Acts relating to adulteration and misrepresentation of foodstuffs; inspection of cases of over-crowdings, canal boats and other special duties occurring from time to time.

## SANITARY, FOOD AND HOUSING INSPECTIONS, 1954

	<i>Visits or Inspection s</i>	<i>Notices Served</i>	<i>Nui- sances Found</i>	<i>Notices Abated</i>	<i>Notices Out- standing</i>
SANITARY COMPLAINTS:—					
Special Complaints investigated	3,898	4,290	7,198	3,391	899
Houses inspected and re-inspected	9,039	—	—	—	—
ROUTINE INSPECTIONS:—					
Inspection of Bakehouses ...	299	9	18	6	3
„ „ butchers shops ...	257	19	43	17	3
„ „ dining rooms (in- cluding cafes, res- taurants and can- teens) ...	207	21	54	21	—
„ „ cold stores ...	16	—	—	—	—
„ „ dairies ...	189	2	6	2	—
„ „ fishmongers ...	8	2	2	1	1
„ „ fish and chip shops	152	12	14	12	—
„ „ food factories ...	375	12	47	8	4
„ „ fruiterers shops ...	60	5	9	4	1
„ „ grocers shops ...	158	19	22	18	1
„ „ ice cream premises	137	—	—	—	—
„ „ ice cream hawkers	4	—	—	—	—
„ „ licensed premises (public houses)...	113	—	—	—	—
„ „ milk shops ...	164	—	—	—	—
„ „ piggeries ...	34	—	—	—	—
„ „ other shop premises	186	14	22	9	5
„ „ canal boats ...	7	2	2	2	—
„ „ schools (kitchens)	24	—	—	—	—
„ „ stables ...	16	2	2	2	—
„ „ vacant land ...	8	1	1	1	—
FACTORIES ACT:—					
Inspection of factories (mechanical)	652	} 33	59	41	18
„ „ „ (non-mec.)	129				
„ „ outworkers' prem.	5				
SPECIAL INSPECTIONS:—					
Observations for atmospheric pollution ...	178	MISCELLANEOUS INSPECTIONS AND VISITS:—			
General smoke observations		Animals—keeping of ...	7		
Housing applications — over- crowding ...	141	Aged and infirm persons, enquiries ...	12		
Inspection of Corporation houses, voids, etc. ...	201	Exhumations ...	6		
Visits—issue of habitation cert.	190	Interviews with owners, con- tractors, etc. ...	552		
Inspections of applications <i>re</i> housing ...	777	Nurseries ...	—		
Fumigation of verminous h'ses	86	Poultry Stores ...	—		
Treatment of furniture by hydro- cyanic acid prior to occupa- tion of Corporation houses ...	134	Parks ...	5		
Investigation of infectious di- sease ...	95	Public Conveniences ...	176		
Re-visits infected houses ...	28	Pet Stores ...	39		
Contacts infectious disease ...	13	Rag and bone dealers ...	2		
Disinfections carried out after infectious disease ...	176	Rag Flock premises ...	2		
Investigations for food poison- ing ...	4	Second-hand furniture stores ...	6		
Specimens obtained for examin.	75	Storage for ice-cream vehicles ...	—		
Cockroach infestation ...	152	Other miscellaneous visits and inspections ...	597		
Drain Testing ...	82	PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949:			
		Complaints investigated ...	77		
		Premises inspected ...	101		
		Premises infested ...	55		
		Visits <i>re</i> insects ...	43		
		HOUSING SURVEYS:—			
		No. of houses visited <i>re</i> occu- pancy ...	2,348		

**Public Health Act, 1936****SUMMARY OF NUISANCES**

Choked/defective drains	...	...	...	...	...	356
„ „ rainwater pipes	...	...	...	...	...	666
„ „ wastepipes	...	...	...	...	...	214
Defective water closets	...	...	...	...	...	1123
„ house roofs	...	...	...	...	...	740
Defects in domestic water supply	...	...	...	...	...	330
Defective yard surfaces	...	...	...	...	...	151
Dampness in dwellings...	...	...	...	...	...	689
Defective plasterwork wall/ceiling	...	...	...	...	...	854
Defective windows	...	...	...	...	...	702
Other defects	...	...	...	...	...	1373
Total						7198
Nuisances abated by owners						6442
Nuisances abated by Corporation (Default/Request)						211
Total						6653

**Food and Drugs Acts****SAMPLES SUBMITTED FOR EXAMINATION**

Milk for analysis	...	...	...	...	...	120
Other food for analysis	...	...	...	...	...	104
Milk for bacteriological examination	...	...	...	...	...	254
Milk for Heat Treatment—Phosphatase Test/Turbidity	...	...	...	...	...	254
Ice Cream for bacteriological examination	...	...	...	...	...	76
Specials for bacteriological and chemical examinations	...	...	...	...	...	10

**FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926**

Samples of fertilisers	...	...	...	...	...	5
Samples of feeding stuffs	...	...	...	...	...	11
						16

Specimens of faeces obtained from contacts for bacteriological examination	...	...	...	...	...	75
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

The incidence of food poisoning, coupled with the increasing interest in food hygiene, is resulting in every effort being made to incorporate modern standards and a higher quality of workmanship in food premises.

Sampling is carried out regularly, and visits are made to shops, food factories, milk premises and ice-cream distributors throughout the Borough.

The Public Analyst, Mr. J. F. Clark, M.Sc., F.R.I.C., examined 224 food and drugs samples during the year, of which 86 were statutory and 138 informal. Common foods have been sampled regularly, and special samples have been taken of suspected foods.

A total of 13 samples contravened Acts and Regulations, and included:

1 Dried Figs.	2 Lolly Ices.
1 Margarine.	1 Sweets.
4 Milks	2 Mint Sauce.
2 Pork Sausages.	

Although there was a slight increase in the number of irregularities compared to the previous year, it is noted that it is very rare to find deliberate adulteration of food.

More attention is now being directed to the labelling of foodstuffs and also to ensuring that the individual retailer is taking care to preserve the soundness of his stocks.

In addition to the 224 routine samples submitted for analysis and examination, there were 10 special samples obtained, which were subjected to chemical analysis or bacteriological examination.

Samples totalling 335 were submitted to the City of Liverpool bacteriologist, Professor D. T. Robinson.



The samples submitted during 1954 included the following:—

Informal Samples		ARTICLE	Statutory Samples			Prosecutions				
Obtained	Adulterated or Sub-standard		Obtained	Adulterated	Cautioned	Summoned	Fined	Withdrawn or dismissed	Amount of fines £ s. d.	Amount of costs to be paid £ s. d.
2	—	Butter ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	—	Cereals/Pudding Mixtures ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	Coffee and Chicory ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	—	Cooking Fat ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	Fish, canned... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	Fish, dressing ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	Flour ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	—	Fruits, bottled and tinned ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	—	Fruits, dried ... (1)	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	Gravy Browning ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	Ground Almonds ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	Herbs, dried ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8	—	Ice Cream ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	Jaffa Juice ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	—	Jams and Preserves ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	Lemon Cheese ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11	2	Lolly Ices ... (2)(3)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6	1	Margarine ... .. (4)	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	—	Meat, cooked, canned...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	—	Meat and Fish Paste ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
50	1	Milk ... (5)(6)(7)(8)	70	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
4	—	Milk, condensed, evaporated and full cream	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	Minced meat ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	2	Mint, bottled (9)(10)	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	Mint, cubes ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	Pies, meat and potato ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	Pure Cream, canned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	Sage and Onion Stuffing	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12	—	Sauces/Pickles ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	—	Sausages, beef ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	1	Sausages, pork (11)(12)	3	1	—	1	—	—	—	5 9 0
1	—	Suet, beef ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	—	Sweets ... .. (13)	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	Tea ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	—	Vegetables, dried ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	—	Vinegar ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	Wines ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
138	7		86	6	2	1	—	—	—	5 9 0

NOTES: (1) *Dried Figs, loose*—Formal Sample—contaminated with insects, containing large numbers of Tyroglyphid Mites, alive and dead. Insects of the *Ptinus* species were also present. These figs had been in stock for a long period. The remaining stock was destroyed.

## NOTES—continued—

- (2) *Lolly Ice*—Informal Sample—water ice of inferior quality. Total sugars 2·5%, acidity (as citric acid) 0·25%, saccharine 0·03%, lead and copper nil. The manufacturers discontinued the manufacture of this product.
- (3) *Lolly Ice*—Informal Sample—incorrectly labelled on wrapper. Manufacturers representative interviewed, and all future printing of Lolly Ice wrappers to bear statement of composition as required by the Labelling of Food Order.
- (4) *Margarine*—this Informal Sample contained preservative and a slight excess of moisture. Local manufacturer notified.
- (5) *Milk*—Informal Sample containing 4% of added water. School milk supplied from outside of the Borough. County Council notified. Further samples taken on delivery.
- (6) and (7) *Milk*—Formal Samples on delivery from outside the Borough, following unsatisfactory Informal Sample No. 5. One sample contained 2¾% of added water, and the other one less than 1%. These results were communicated to the County Council who investigated at the plant in their area.
- (8) *Milk*—Formal Sample containing 49% of added water. This milk was taken from a local cafe. The owner stated that the milk was intended for use in connection with the cafe. Warning given to cafe proprietor.
- (9) *Mint Sauce*—Informal Sample containing an excessive amount of copper, viz.: 200 parts per million. Manufacturer informed and a formal sample was obtained at a later date when the Analyst's Report stated: Copper, one part per million; Lead, nil; Acetic Acid, 3·7%.
- (10) *Mint Sauce*—Informal Sample containing a slight excess of Lead, viz.: 3 parts per million. All remaining stock withdrawn from sale.
- (11) *Pork Sausages*—Informal Sample containing preservative, and slightly deficient of Meat. Total Meat 59%; Sulphur Dioxide 130 parts per million. The firm of manufacturing retailers notified, who guaranteed that all future mixes would contain not less than 65% meat.
- (12) *Pork Sausages*—Formal Sample containing not more than 48% of Meat. Legal proceedings instituted under Section 3 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. The firm was granted an absolute discharge on payment of 4s. Court Fee and £5 5s. 0d. Analyst's Fee.
- (13) *Butter Cream Toffees*—Formal Sample deficient of butter fat to the extent of 50%. Toffees imported from Ireland. Importer notified of deficiency.

**Public Health (Preservatives, etc. in Food) Regulations**

The Public Analyst examined 181 samples submitted for evidence of preservatives.

**Registration of Factories and Wholesale Premises, Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Section 34**

(a) Registered margarine factories	...	...	1
(b) Registered wholesale dealers in margarine...			9
(c) Registered butter factories	...	...	Nil
Total inspections of registered premises	...	...	140

## Milk

The Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) Order, 1952, made by the Ministry of Food came into operation on the 1st November, 1952. Accordingly, from the appointed date all milk sold by retail within the area must be specially designated milk, that is, pasteurised milk, sterilised milk, tuberculin tested milk or (until 30th September, 1954) accredited milk from a single herd. The County Borough of Bootle has been included in one of the specified areas.

*Milk Supplies.*—There are 145 registered distributors of milk on the Borough Register, and 240 licences were issued under the appropriate Special Designation Regulations, 1949 to 1953.

There are no farms or shippens situated within the Borough boundaries.

There has been no infectious disease or food poisoning outbreak traced to the supply of milk within the Borough.

## Milk Shops and Dairies

There are 118 milk shops and 9 dairies selling bottled milk, all of which have licences under the regulations.

During the year 353 inspections were made of these premises and a satisfactory standard of cleanliness was maintained.

There is only one pasteurising plant in the Borough which deals with 2,000 gallons of milk daily.

During the year, 128 samples of milk were taken at this plant and submitted to the bacteriologist for the appropriate tests. Three of these samples failed to pass the methylene blue test and four failed the phosphatase test. This firm supplies 22 schools in the Borough with 310 gallons daily.

## Milk Sampling

There have been 254 samples of milk submitted for the Methylene Blue Test and 253 for the Phosphatase and Turbidity Tests to indicate the amount of heat treatment to which the milk has been subjected. Twelve failed to satisfy the Methylene Blue Test and 5 the Phosphatase Test. In the 12 failing to pass the Methylene Blue Test the average shade temperature was less than 65 degrees in 6 instances, more than 65 degrees in 3 instances and 65 degrees in 3 instances. Of the 5 samples which failed to pass the Phosphatase Test, 4 were taken from milk which had been treated on premises within the Borough and 1 sample from milk treated outside the Borough.

One sample of raw milk was examined for B. Tuberculosis, the result being negative.

*Hospital: Milk Supply.*—Milk sampling is carried out periodically at Bootle Hospital, and 9 samples were taken during the year. Five were submitted for chemical analysis, and 4 for bacteriological examination. The former satisfied all legal standards, and the latter passed the Methylene Blue Test and the Phosphatase Test.

*School Milk.*—There were 35 samples of milk obtained from schools for bacteriological examination. Three samples failed to pass the Methylene Blue Test and one the Phosphatase Test. There were 24 samples submitted for chemical analysis, and all were satisfactory.

### Ice Cream

Eight samples of ice cream were submitted for chemical analysis, with the following results:—

Sample Number		Fat Content per cent.		Other Solids per cent.		Sugar content
1	...	22.0	...	10.0	...	13.5
2	...	12.0	...	8.0	...	14.0
3	...	11.5	...	7.5	...	14.0
4	...	11.5	...	8.5	...	15.5
5	...	12.5	...	9.5	...	13.5
6	...	10.5	...	13.0	...	11.0
7	...	11.0	...	9.0	...	15.5
8	...	11.0	...	10.5	...	15.5
Averages		12.7	...	9.5	...	14.06

There were 129 ice cream premises registered, but only 10 have been registered for manufacture. Of these, only 5 are actually manufacturing, 1 is on a "Complete Cold Mix," and the other 4 obtain and sell supplies from wholesalers.

76 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination, results being as follows:—Grade 1, 43; Grade 2, 20; Grade 3, 13; Grade 4, Nil.

Persons selling ice cream from vehicles are required to be registered in accordance with the Bootle Corporation Act, 1930. The vehicles are inspected before licensing, together with the washing arrangements and the premises where ice cream is stored at the end of the day. Where a vendor is living in the area of another authority, communications have been addressed to the responsible officer and a report obtained as to the suitability of the person applying for registration and of his premises.

No case of infection reported during the year was traced to ice cream.

### Unsound Food—Condemned

The following foodstuffs were surrendered voluntarily:—

Total weight, 9 tons 0 cwts. 3 qrs. 6 lbs.

*Meat (raw).*—Beef, Lamb, Pork, Trimmings—Total raw meat, 1561½ lbs.

*Meat (tinned).*—Hams, Luncheon meats, Corned Beef, Assorted tinned meats.—Total canned meat, 3028½ lbs.

*Vegetables.*—New potatoes, 2,416 lbs.

*Fruit, etc. (canned).*—Vegetables, Tinned fruit, Rhubarb, Peas, Carrots.—Total canned fruit, 2,400 lbs.

*Fish (raw).*—75 lbs.

*Fish (canned).*—73 lbs.

*Milk (canned).*—1035 lbs.

*Other Foods (raw and canned).*—Soup, Pudding mixtures, Jam, Cereals, Sweets, Barley, Cheese, Cocoanut, Flour, Eggs (shell).—Total, 9,661 lbs.

All condemned food is destroyed by burning at the Corporation's incinerator.

### Prosecutions

There were no prosecutions under Section 9 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, in connection with the selling of food unfit for human consumption.

### Registration of Food Preparation Premises

Premises registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, total 96, including those used for the preparation of sausages, potted or preserved meat, fish or other foods, certain butchers' shops and food factories. There were 708 inspections made of these premises, and the requirements of Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, relating to structure, sanitation, ventilation and removal of refuse were applied.



## Bakehouses

There are 21 bakehouses in the Borough and 299 visits of inspection were made during the year.

Continuous supervision is necessary to maintain a good standard of cleanliness, and the majority of proprietors welcome constructive criticism and are prompt to implement any suggestion that will improve their premises and safeguard their products.

Lectures and film shows dealing with the hygiene of food handling and storage of food have been given to food workers, at which questions were invited and answered. It is hoped that these lectures will acquaint the food handlers with the hazards of improper food handling, and give them a true sense of the responsibility and importance of their work.

A considerable amount of work is being carried out with the co-operation of the majority of bakery firms. It was necessary, however, to serve 9 notices in respect of the following 18 items:—

Decoration of Premises	...	...	...	7
Provision of Suitable Equipment	...	...	...	4
Lack of Cleanliness	...	...	...	5
Provision and Maintenance of Washing Facilities	...	...	...	2
				<hr/> 18 <hr/>

## Basement Bakehouses

There are 2 basement bakehouses in the Borough and 42 visits of inspection have been made during the year. Certificates of Suitability are in operation in respect of both basement bakehouses.

## Food Factories

There are 36 food factories within the Borough to which 375 visits of inspection have been made during the year. Notices have been sent in respect of the following 46 defects which were all remedied during the year:—

Premises requiring re-decoration	...	...	12
Lack of Cleanliness	...	...	8
Premises requiring repair/re-surfacing of floors, walls and ceiling	...	...	7
Absence of suitable washing facilities	...	...	6
Absence of drainage to floors	...	...	2
Absence of suitable ventilation	...	...	2

Absence of adequate lighting ... ..	2
Absence of suitable equipment and facilities for the sterilization of equipment...	6
Provision of suitable food storage facilities ...	1
	<hr/>
	46
	<hr/>

The reconstruction and alterations to old factory buildings still continues, but there is a considerable amount of work yet to be done in this field. In some instances old and dilapidated warehouse rooms have been transformed into food factories conforming with modern standards of hygiene and design.

Many factory managements have now been persuaded that it is false economy to reduce expenditure on building alterations by using inferior and cheaper materials, and they are now including floor and wall finishes of a more permanent character in their schemes.

During the year it was necessary to discontinue the processing of eggs in a factory that was not suited for that purpose. A complete specification of work required to be done was drawn up, and submitted to the firm in question. At a subsequent meeting with the firm's representatives it was agreed that the premises should be reconstructed so as to conform with modern requirements before egg processing could be resumed.

## Canteens

There are 22 works' canteens with a total seating capacity of 6,174, serving approximately 8,000 meals daily. Although the attendances at these canteens continue to decrease, many firms still consider them to be a necessary amenity for the factory employee.

Continuous supervision is maintained and it was necessary to serve notices in respect of the following items, which have since been remedied:

Premises requiring re-decoration ... ..	8
Want of cleanliness ... ..	4
Absence of suitable washing facilities ... ..	4
Absence of suitable refuse bins ... ..	2
Absence of adequate protection for exposed food... ..	2
Absence of suitable mechanical ventilation ...	1
Premises requiring renewal and/or repair of walls and ceilings ... ..	2
Absence of suitable storage facilities for crocery ... ..	1
The use of cracked and dangerous crockery ...	1
	<hr/>
	25
	<hr/>

### Cafes and Dining Rooms

At the commencement of the year, 32 premises still continued to be used for this purpose, but latterly 4 premises ceased to operate as such. Altogether 207 visits were made to these establishments during the year.

Regular visits and frequent instruction of supervisors and staff at the place of employment, in the principles of food hygiene are gradually showing results. Emphasis was laid on dish-washing, personal hygiene and the use of approved detergents.

The importance of wearing a suitable head covering has been pointed out to food handlers. Unfortunately, the white cloth type of head-wear is unpopular with female staff for reasons which are somewhat obscure. One reason given was that it "caused headaches." In certain cases it was necessary to compromise by the use of a closely meshed hairnet.

It is regretted that in one case it was necessary to institute legal proceedings against a proprietor of a cafe who ignored repeated warnings regarding the condition of his premises. At the hearing the defendant pleaded guilty to five summonses and was fined £2 in each case, totalling £10. Two of the summonses were in respect of infringements of the Food Byelaws and three for infringements of Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

### Fish and Chip Shops

During the year, 152 visits were made to the 38 fish and chip shops in the Borough, and 12 notices were served in respect of 14 items.

The standard of cleanliness in these establishments continued to improve. The practice of wrapping the fish and chips in greaseproof paper before enclosing in an outer wrapper of newspaper, was adopted in all premises and in several cases the use of newspaper was discontinued altogether, a white sheet of paper being used as the external wrapper.

It was interesting to observe that a new line of trade, the retail sale of fried meat chop and chips as an alternative to fish and chips, has become popular. Also, the pre-war retail trade of the sale of cow-heels and boiled ox-tails for consumption in the home has been re-established and is on the increase. This additional trade in fish-frying establishments led to consideration being given as to whether the existing facilities on the premises were adequate for the preparation, cooking and storage of these new articles of food. However, no real difficulty was encountered in this respect, the proprietors proved most co-operative and carried out any requirements that were necessary.

## Food Premises

The following is a brief summary of the nature of the food premises within the Borough:—

Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	56
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	9
Milk Shops	...	...	...	...	...	118
Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	106
Fruiterers	...	...	...	...	...	64
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	27
Sweets	...	...	...	...	...	75
Fish and Chips	...	...	...	...	...	38
Dining Rooms and Cafes	...	...	...	...	...	32
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	...	18
Other Food Premises	...	...	...	...	...	64
						<hr/> 607

## Factories

There are 263 factories entered on the factory register and are comprised as follows:—

A. Factories having mechanical power...	...	212
B. Factories without mechanical power	...	48
C. Premises within scope of Sections 103, 107 and 108	...	3

Four factories were added to the register and 13 have been deleted.

A total of 835 visits of inspection has been made during the year, and these have had the effect of impressing upon managements and staffs the importance of a high standard of hygiene in relation to their good health and comfort. The co-operation of factory managements continues to be good and many contraventions of the Factories Acts are attended to immediately they are pointed out. In only 33 instances has it been found necessary to serve notices, and the work required to be done was either completed or in hand at the end of the year.

## Summary of Defects:—

			Found	Abated
Want of cleanliness	...	...	2	1
Unsuitable temperature	...	...	—	—
Sanitary accommodation:—				
(a) insufficient	...	...	4	2
(b) defective and unsuitable	...	...	47	37*
(c) separation of sexes	...	...	—	—
Miscellaneous	...	...	6	1

\*The number of defects abated includes defects outstanding from the previous year.

A close liaison is maintained with H.M. Inspector of Factories and with various Corporation Departments. Joint inspections are made with the Town Planning Department to investigate applications to open new factories within the Borough.

## Outworkers

Included in the duties of the Sanitary Department is that of keeping a register of outworkers, and the inspectors pay regular visits to their homes; at present there are five outworkers on the register.

## Workplaces and Offices

There are 265 workplaces and offices which have been recorded and card indexed. Visits of inspection amounted to 256 and 27 notices were served for the abatement of nuisances, comprising 36 defects which have since been abated.

Want of cleanliness	...	...	...	...	11
Defective sanitary conveniences	...	...			10
Premises requiring maintenance of ventilation					4
Premises requiring drainage of floors	...	...			1
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	9
					<hr/> 36 <hr/>

## Offensive Trades

There are 11 offensive trades established within the Borough and 56 visits of inspection have been made to these premises during the year. Strict supervision is maintained and there has been no evidence of nuisances caused by the processes carried on in them.

### *List of Offensive Trades:—*

1. *Rag Sorting.*—There are two rag sorting factories in the area.
2. *Fellmongers.*—There are two fellmongers within the Borough.
3. *Soap Boilers.*—The six soap boiling factories in the area have given no cause for complaint during the year.
4. *Tripe Boiling.*—There is 1 tripe boiling factory in the Borough.



## Licensed Premises

During the year, 113 visits have been made to the 45 licensed premises in the Borough. Generally, a good standard of hygiene is being maintained by the licensees and the Brewery Companies concerned.

In several licensed premises, additional sanitary accommodation for the use of persons frequenting the premises has been provided or is to be provided in the near future.

The following is a list of premises where work has been completed, work in progress and plans approved:—

### *Work Completed*

Talbot Hotel—Additional sanitary convenience for females.

### *Work in Progress*

Victoria Hotel—Additional sanitary conveniences for males and females.

Windham Hotel—Additional sanitary conveniences for males and females.

### *Plans Approved*

Bootle Arms, Clarence Inn, Derby Arms, Queens Arms, Royal Standard, St. George Tavern—Additional sanitary conveniences for females proposed.

The St. Winifred's Hotel is still in the process of conversion to a residential hotel.

Re-decoration has been carried out in 9 premises.

A complaint was received from a licensee regarding excessive condensation in his living quarters. This was remedied by means of mechanical ventilation.

## Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and Byelaws

Clean food byelaws made by the Council on the 3rd January, 1951, came into operation on the 28th May, 1951.

These byelaws were made for the purpose of "securing the observance of sanitary and cleanly conditions and practices in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food sold or intended for sale for human consumption, and in connection with the sale or exposure for sale in the open air of food intended for human consumption."

In general, no great difficulty has been experienced in enforcing the byelaws. It was necessary to institute legal proceedings in only one instance.

### **Bootle Corporation Act, 1939—Section 115**

It is necessary for any person intending to sell any meat, or meat food product, or fish or fruit or vegetables, from any cart, barrow or other vehicle, to be registered with the Corporation in accordance with the above enactment.

There are 9 persons registered under this Act.

Prior to registration, all mobile shops and similar vehicles are subjected to a careful inspection and advice is given to the applicant on the principles of food hygiene generally.

### **Slaughterhouses**

There are no public or private slaughterhouses within the Borough.

### **Pet Animals Act, 1951**

There are 6 pet shops in the local authority's area, for which licences were issued during the year.

### **Second-Hand Stores**

Inspection of second-hand stores has been maintained. This work is particularly important to prevent the spread of vermin and infection, particularly in certain areas where the cost of new furniture is more than can be comfortably afforded by the occupiers of houses who rely upon second-hand clothing or furniture.

### **Cinemas**

Inspection of the three cinemas in the Borough has been instituted. These inspections are important, for transmission of infection and vermin is difficult to prevent where large numbers of people congregate. Consequently, it is important that sanitary accommodation, ventilation, lighting, cleanliness and structural defects receive immediate attention.

## **Infectious Disease**

There were 95 cases of infectious disease investigated, other than tuberculosis, and disinfections were carried out in 176 cases.

In dealing with outbreaks of food poisoning special investigations were carried out in the homes of food handlers, including the obtaining of specimens of faeces for bacteriological examination, in order to detect any possible carriers of disease in their families.

Infectious disease cases nursed at home were kept under observation, and advice was given as to preventing the spread of infection. Where isolation was found to be impossible, arrangements were made for removal to hospital.

The local authority is responsible for the removal of all cases of infectious disease landed from ships in Bootle Docks.

## **Water Supply**

The Borough of Bootle is supplied with water by Liverpool Corporation, the source being upland surfaces in North Wales and Lancashire. It is wholesome and sufficient for all purposes. Periodical bacteriological examinations are made by the water undertakers and reports submitted to the Medical Officer of Health.

Throughout the year complaints concerning the water supply have been reduced to a minimum by constant co-operation between the inspectors and the Liverpool Corporation Water Department.

Three hundred and thirty defects were investigated and these related mainly to waste, or to damage caused by burst pipes.

All dwelling-houses within the Borough are supplied with water from the public water mains direct to the houses.

## **Smoke Abatement and Atmospheric Pollution**

The essentially industrial character of the Borough causes the problem of atmospheric pollution to be one of outstanding importance. Although some improvement has been made, much greater efforts are necessary to reduce appreciably the pollution of the atmosphere from smoke and other sources.

General observations have been made throughout the year, and 178 official observations taken. As a result of these observations, 9 notices have been served upon persistent offenders.

The causes of smoke emission included inefficient stoking, unsuitable fuel and defective plant.

Frequent inspections of boiler plants, together with the instruction of boilermen in the proper use of fuel, have been maintained. Some large firms have been persuaded to send their boiler-house staff to an approved course of lectures on the efficient use of fuel, and it is noteworthy that those who attended the course showed a more intelligent interest in their work than they had previously shown.

It has been observed that many emissions of excessive smoke are caused by boiler plants that are without adequate recording instruments and where the chimney stack is not visible from the boiler-house. In these circumstances firms have been requested to instal an electrical device in the chimney stack which gives audible and visible warning in the boiler-house when excessive smoke is being emitted. It is hoped that several of these devices will be operating in the near future.

The starting of boiler fires usually gives rise to excessive smoke, but boiler-house staff have been instructed that by exercising care this also can be reduced to a negligible amount. In one instance a boilerman was discovered starting his fire with pieces of scrap rubber, causing a pall of dense, black, oily smoke to form over a wide residential area.

Another nuisance was caused by a mechanical underfeed stoker emitting smoke into the boiler-house through the fuel hopper. The problem was solved by the use of a more suitable fuel and a complete overhaul of the stoker mechanism.

Atmospheric pollution is often aggravated by the thoughtlessness of a few factory owners and employees. By frequent visits to point out shortcomings in this respect, it is hoped that the people concerned will develop a greater awareness of their responsibilities to prevent such pollution.

In one instance a firm installed a cyclone dust extractor to their open-air plant but omitted to fix a suitable collecting chamber to receive the dust, consequently the dust arrested by the cyclone was disseminated directly over the adjoining dwellinghouses. In another case, a works manager made every effort to keep his factory clean, but he made a bonfire with the rubbish in the factory yard causing considerable nuisance and annoyance to his neighbours.



Fumes from a leather bleaching process which were causing a nuisance have been dealt with by the provision of suitable ventilation, and the collection and discharge of the fumes at a suitable height.

Complaints of foul smells over a large area led to the discovery of a consignment of "whale soluble" that was leaking from corroded metal drums in a large warehouse. The "whale soluble" was repacked and the area was thoroughly cleaned.

An atmospheric pollution recording station is established at the Civil Defence Depot, Knowsley Road. The instruments at the station measure the amount of grit and sulphuric acid. The results of these measurements are forwarded to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research each month.

### **Noise Nuisance**

A number of complaints were received that certain factories were causing excessive noise during the night to such an extent as to interfere with the comfort and sleep of the neighbouring inhabitants. A late night meeting was arranged with the complainants and the factory managements, at which the cause for complaint was identified, and with the co-operation of the firms concerned the nuisance was abated.

### **Prosecutions for Non-Abatement of Nuisances—**

#### **Public Health Act, 1936, Section 93**

Prosecutions have been reduced to a minimum by personal contact, and also by the Corporation carrying out the work in default, as provided for by statute.

There were 2 prosecutions for the non-abatement of sanitary nuisances during the year.

Penalties of 10/- and £2 respectively were imposed and nuisance orders obtained in both cases.

### **Vermin Infestation**

The routine procedure for disinfestation of verminous premises has been maintained. Eighteen municipal houses and 63 privately-owned houses were disinfested with suitable insecticides, and the furniture of 134 dwelling-houses was treated with hydrogen cyanide.

Special treatment has been adopted for cockroach infestation, and has been applied to 101 municipal houses, 51 privately-owned houses and 1 public bath.



Special steps have been taken with regard to certain pests, including ants, bed bugs, house flies and lice. This service has been carried out by the local authority at a nominal fee, the occupiers being only too happy to have the pests removed, and 45 occupiers have paid to have their premises disinfested.

### **Canal Boats**

There were 7 inspections of canal boats on the Leeds and Liverpool Canal within the Borough. Two notices were served. No women or children were found on the boats during inspection. Bootle is not a registration authority.

### **Stables**

During the summer months stables can be a source of considerable nuisance, and visits to stables are usually increased during this period. Fly infestation is a serious menace, and the methods now adopted are proving effective. D.D.T. is used for the spraying of stalls. 16 special visits were made to stables.

### **Exhumations**

The six exhumations which took place during the year were under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspectors.

### **Swimming Baths**

Inspection of swimming baths was carried on throughout the year, and 8 samples of the water were taken.

In 2 samples, B coli was present to the extent of 1 and 3 parts per 100 ml. respectively. The other samples were satisfactory.

### **Hairdressers and Barbers**

These premises are not compulsorily registered, but the inspectors have visited 75 hairdressers during the year, applying general principles of hygiene and sanitation, usually under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936.

### **Caravan Dwellings**

There are no licensed caravan dwellers situated within the Borough, nor are there any sites for this purpose. Periodical fun fairs visit the parks and one other site, but as they are subject to special exemption, licensing is not required.

From time to time gypsies visit the Borough, but when informed by inspectors that camping is not permitted they have moved away from the Borough.

## HOUSING

The provision of adequate housing accommodation remains one of the most pressing needs of the Borough. The following information relating to applications for the tenancy of Corporation houses up to 31st December, 1954, has been supplied by the Housing Manager.

No. of applicants living in rooms inside the Borough ...	2852
do. outside do. ...	984
	<hr/>
Total No. of applicants living in rooms ... ..	3836
No. of applicants who are householders inside the Borough ... ..	875
No. of applicants who are householders outside the Borough ... ..	274
	<hr/>
Total No. of applicants who are householders ... ..	1149
	<hr/>
Total No. of applicants . ... ..	4985
	<hr/>

The total number of applicants on the waiting list decreased during 1954 by 412, the total at the end of 1953 being 5,397.

The decrease is entirely due to a review of applicants who are householders, when 654 did not return the enquiry form signifying their wish to remain on the waiting list.

The Borough Engineer has supplied the following information relating to houses erected during the year:—

Houses erected by Local Authority—A.1 Type ...	52
A.2 Type ...	242
A.3 Type ...	480
A.4 Type ...	22
B.3 Type ...	6
	<hr/>
	802
„ „ „ other bodies and persons, B.3 Type ...	12
„ „ „ other Local Authorities ... ..	Nil

Number of houses demolished during the year:—

(a) by Local Authority—

12 (Derby Road Clearance Site).

2 (Glover's Lane).

2 (Bridge Lane).

(b) by other bodies or persons—

6 houses over shops (5 by Corporation in default).  
(1 by private individual).

## Slum Clearance

Progress with the slum clearance programme continued throughout the year, one area being dealt with by clearance area procedure and three further areas were surveyed, with a view to representation early next year.

### SUMMARY OF SLUM CLEARANCE PROGRESS

<i>Year Represented</i>	<i>No. of C.O.'s</i>	<i>No. of C.P.O.'s</i>	<i>No. of dwelling-houses</i>	<i>No. of persons to be displaced</i>	<i>No. of persons displaced</i>	<i>No. of houses demolished</i>
1951 ...	1	—	33	189	—	—
1952 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
1953 ...	—	1	83	383	292	33
1954 ...	—	1	70	294	222	12
TOTALS	1	2	186	866	514	45

Objections were made by an owner having an interest in the property and land in the Bootle (Derby Road Housing No. 2) Compulsory Purchase Order, and the Minister accordingly arranged for a Public Inquiry to be held at the Town Hall to hear the objection.

The following Clearance Area was represented during the year, for which a Compulsory Purchase Order was made:—

<i>Area</i>	<i>Houses</i>	<i>Population</i>
The Bootle (Derby Road Housing No. 2) ... ..	70	294

## Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954

The above Act, which came into operation on the 30th August, 1954, makes “further provision for the clearance and re-development of areas of unfit housing accommodation, and for securing or promoting the reconditioning and maintenance of houses; and otherwise to amend the enactments relating to housing, the exercise of certain powers relating to land, and rent control.”

Under Section 1 of the Act, every local authority is required to submit proposals to the Minister for dealing with houses within the district of the authority which appear to be unfit for human habitation. A survey of the houses in the Borough is being carried out to ascertain the number of unfit houses and a report embodying certain recommendations is to be submitted to the Council early next year.

The Act also enables landlords whose property is in good condition to claim a repairs increase on the rent. The condition of the house may, however, be disputed by the tenant who can apply to the local authority for a "certificate of disrepair." Altogether, 125 applications for certificates of disrepair were received, 101 of which were granted, the remainder were under consideration at the end of the year. Three applications for revocations of certificates were received and granted.

#### **Housing Act, 1936, Part IV—Overcrowding**

During the year 53 houses were found to be overcrowded. Exceptional cases were recommended for priority re-housing.

#### **Special Applications for Re-Housing**

During the year, 141 reports were made for consideration by the Medical Officer of Health in connection with applications for priority in re-housing. Besides being overcrowded, many cases had a record of chronic infection or other serious illness.

#### **Municipal Houses**

On a change of tenancy, all municipal houses are inspected, and during the year 777 houses have been so visited. Of these, 201 were vacant at the time of visit and 190 habitation certificates were issued after treatment or repair of the premises.

### **HOUSING STATISTICS**

#### **I. Inspections of Dwellinghouses during the year**

(1) (a)	Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	4049
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	9453
(2) (a)	Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected, and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... ..	252
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	417

(3)	Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	151
(4)	Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	2486

## II. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notices

	Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... ..	74
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## III. Action under Statutory Powers during the year

(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936/49:—	
(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ..	—
(2)	Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a)	by owners ... ..	—
(b)	by Local Authority in default of owners ... ..	—
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—	
(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	2858
(2)	Number of dwellinghouses in which the defects were remedied after service of formal notices—	
(a)	by owners ... ..	2173
(b)	by Local Authority in default of owners ... ..	138
(c)	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936/1949:—	
(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..	—
(2)	Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	—
(d)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936/1949:—	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ..	—
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... ..	—



## THE BOOTLE (DERBY ROAD) NO. 1 CLEARANCE AREA COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER

This area, which comprised Johnstone Street, Mann Street, Emley Street (odd numbers) and certain properties in Derby Road, contained 83 houses occupied by 383 persons. This area was represented to the Council on 7th January, 1953, and the Order was confirmed by the Minister of Housing on 14th November. It is to be re-developed for housing purposes.



*Rear view of typical house in the area showing decayed condition of brickwork*



*View of space between back of houses showing restricted yard spaces and narrow passage (2-ft. 10-ins.), causing considerable congestion.*



*Area in process of demolition.*



## Rodent Control—The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

There are four permanent rodent operators engaged in carrying out duties under the above mentioned enactment.

The staff are carrying out continuous visitation of all premises in the Borough, and all factors giving rise to infestation are dealt with immediately. Many cases necessitate the taking up of floors, yard surfaces and passages, leading in some cases to extensive drainage repairs and reinstatement.

The systematic treatment of sewers is assisting considerably in the prevention of surface infestation. It has been ascertained by test baiting that there are now many sections of the sewerage system free from infestation.

Systematic inspection of private dwelling houses continued and during the year, 9187 were inspected. 248 were found to be infested with vermin, 107 by rats and 141 by mice. A total of 307 complaints was received from occupiers of dwellinghouses.

*Inspection of Lands and Buildings.*—There were 3,913 inspections of lands and buildings, comprising food shops, retail shops, factories, warehouses, schools, offices and cold stores. One hundred and seventy of these premises were found to be infested, 56 by rats and 114 by mice. The staff treated 125 of these infestations, the remainder being dealt with by servicing companies under the supervision of the rodent operators.

*Sewer Treatment.*—The sewers have been treated on two occasions, and during April and May, after a ten per cent. test, it was found necessary to treat 853 man-holes. In 400 man-holes, infestation by rats was found. During October and November, another treatment was carried out and 853 man-holes were treated, revealing signs of infestation in 353 man-holes. A further test has been carried out in the new sewers, which have been laid in the Borough during the year.

*Causes of Infestation.*—The majority of infestations are found in food storage premises, and the rodent operators have concentrated on such premises.

### **Public Sanitary Conveniences**

There are 21 sanitary conveniences under the supervision of the Department; all of these provide for males and four of them make provision also for females.

The public convenience staff consists of 4 males and 3 females; they cleanse every public convenience at least twice a day, and in special cases, three times a day. The conveniences for the use of females are kept open from 7.30 a.m. to 10.30 p.m. The conveniences for the use of males remain open all day and night.

Special attention is necessary to the public conveniences situated in North Park and South Park during the holiday periods, or when fair grounds are established. It is to be regretted that the public conveniences at North Park continue to suffer from damage and dirt during these periods, and it has been necessary to wash the internal walls daily due to the mud and filth that is thrown upon them during these periods.

The inspectors visit the conveniences regularly to supervise the cleansing, and 176 visits were made during the year.





# INFANT MORTALITY, 1954.—CAUSES OF DEATH.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Under 1 week							Total under 4 weeks				3 months and under 6 months				9 months and under 12 months		Total Deaths under One Year
	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	4 weeks	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	Total under 4 weeks	Total Deaths under One Year
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculosis (other forms) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Respiratory Diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningococcal Infections ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Laryngitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Digestive Diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cancer ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Accident ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Causes ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
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